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THE

HISTORY

OF

ABERDEEN;

CONTAINING AN ACCOUNT OF THE

RISE, PROGRESS, AND EXTENSION OF THE CITY,

FROM A REMOTE PERIOD TO THE PRESENT DAY;

INCLUDING ITS

Antiquities, Civil and Ecclesiastical State,

MANUFACTURES, TRADE, AND COMMERCE;

AN ACCOUNT OF

The See of Aberdeen, and the two Universities;

WITH

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF EMINENT MEN CONNECTED WITH THE BISHOPRICK AND COLLEGES.

By WALTER THOM,

AUTHOR OF SKETCHES ON POLITICAL ECONOMY,

&c. &c. &c.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

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CHAPTER I.

CONTENTS.

[TRANSACTIONS AT ABERDEEN FROM THE PERIOD OF THE REVOLUTION TO THE YEAR 1783—UNION—REBELLIONS IN 1715 AND 1745—ELECTIONS—PROVOSTS OF ABERDEEN—STATE OF CHURCH AFFAIRS.]

* * * *

THE most prominent events in the history of Scotland since the æra of the Revolution, are, the union of the two kingdoms, and the rebellions in 1715 and 1745. The first event, so beneficial to both countries, consolidated the British empire, by identifying the interests of two nations formerly hostile; and the two last, preserved the liberties of the people, as they destroyed the hopes of an arbitrary race of kings, whose maxims were despotic; and secured the house of Brunswick in the possession of the throne, on the principles of a free government.

The British constitution has justly merited and obtained the unqualified approbation of both natives and foreigners; and has frequently been the theme of their praise, or the subject of their admiration. The security of property, and the protection of individual right, are the basis on which the prosperity of this country has been reared: and while we preserve entire the constitution as established in 1688, the wealth and happiness of the nation must progressively increase. The blessing of freedom being equally diffused among all classes of society, the exertions of industry are promoted by the certainty of enjoyment; and accordingly, agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, have rapidly advanced.

The city of ABERDEEN, which is the particular subject of our work, has participated in the general prosperity, and for public spirit and enterprize, its citizens are inferior to none.—But before we proceed to investigate the present state of the *Capital of the North*, it may not be unacceptable to our readers, to premise a few incidents of an historical nature, connected with our inquiry.

For some years previously to the Revolution, we have seen, that James II. arbitrarily appointed the magistrates of Aberdeen, in virtue of that self-created authority which emanated from the divine right of kings. But at Michaelmas 1689, the election took place by a poll of the burgesses, and Alexander Gordon was chosen provost. Next year, the same mode

of

of proceeding was adopted, and John Sandilands was elected. But on the 8th of July, 1691, an act of the privy council, of date the 23d of June, was presented by bailies Moir and Robertson, ordering a new provost to be elected by the magistrates and council, in the place of Mr. Sandilands. Walter Cochrane was accordingly appointed, and at next Michaelmas, he was re-elected for the ensuing year. In the years 1693-4-5-6, Robert Cruickshank of Banchory was elected provost.

At Michaelmas, 1697, John Johnston was elected to the office of chief magistrate; but an exception was taken to his election by several members of the council, who raised an action of reduction before the lords of the privy council, which was sustained. A new election was therefore ordered on the 8th of December, when Alexander Walker was chosen provost; and at the same time, it was enacted by the magistrates and council, that in future no provost should be continued in office longer than two years.

In the years 1698 and 99, Thomas Mitchell was provost; 1700-1, John Allardyce; 1702-3, Thomas Mitchell; 1704-5, Alexander Paton; 1706-7, John Gordon; and for 1708-9, John Allardyce was again elected provost.

In the year 1708, water was brought into the town in pipes, for the accommodation of the inhabitants, and reservoirs and wells were erected. William Lindsay, goldsmith, was appointed superintendant of the water-works, with a salary of £16 : 13 : 4 sterling, annually.

nually. The union of the two kingdoms had taken place in 1707; and John Gordon, late provost, represented the Aberdeen district of boroughs, in the first British parliament. The honour of sitting in St. Stephen's chapel was not so anxiously courted then as in our own times; and we may reasonably conjecture, that it was not attended with so much personal advantage then as in the present day: for the town-council of Aberdeen agreed to defray his expenses. The treasurer was ordered by act of council, the 9th July, 1709, to pay to Mr. Gordon, £216 sterling, being the amount of his expenses from the 11th of October last, to May this year, as per account given in by him. A similar order was issued on the 23d of June, 1710, for £163 sterling, to be paid to him to liquidate his expenses during the last session of parliament.

John Ross of Arnage was provost for the years 1710 and 11; John Allardyce, for 1712 and 13; and Robert Stewart, for the year 1714. In the beginning of August this year, queen Anne died, and was succeeded by George, elector of Hanover, who was proclaimed sovereign of the three kingdoms. His reign was soon disturbed (1715), by an insurrection in Scotland, instigated by the son of James II. commonly called the *Pretender*, and supported by the adherents of his family, who were termed *Jacobites*.

The duke of Argyle was appointed to the military command in Scotland; and the earl of Mar headed the rebel clans. They came in contact with their forces on Sheriff-muir, and after a hard-fought battle, both sides claimed the victory. The Pretender countenanced

nanced his friends by his presence, but he possessed none of the requisites for war, and when his affairs became unpromising, he shamefully stole off with some of his favourites to France.

As many of the citizens of Aberdeen were engaged in this rebellion, it may be proper to notice some occurrences which took place in the town during the years 1715 and 16.

On the 28th of September, 1715, earl Marischal entered Aberdeen with a troop of horse, and being joined by the disaffected, he proceeded to the cross, and proclaimed the Chevalier de St. George, king of Great Britain, &c. This ceremony being performed, he next took possession of the town-house, and prevented the election of the magistrates and council. By tuck of drum, he ordered the inhabitants to meet next day at the new church, and proceed to the election by poll, which was accordingly done, and Patrick Bannerman was chosen provost.

On the 17th of October, a head-court was called, when the provost produced a letter from the earl of Mar, who commanded the rebel army, dated at Perth the 6th current, ordering the magistrates and council to raise from the town L.200 sterling, as cess for six months, by the 30th inst., under certification of the penalty of quartering. The money was immediately raised by a general assessment on the inhabitants.

Three of the town's ministers continued to pray for the Hanoverian king, notwithstanding the order of the magistrates to pray for the Pretender. They were displaced, and Dr. George Gordon, Dr. Alexander Burnett,

and Mr. Dumbreck, were appointed to officiate. The deposed ministers, however, hired two houses to contain their hearers, and persevered in praying for king George I. in defiance of either the magistrates or the Pretender's authority.

A head-court was called on the 27th of October, and the provost laid before it a letter he had received from the earl of Mar, dated from the camp at Perth, the 14th of October, 1715, and addressed to the magistrates and council of Aberdeen, of which the following is a copy.

" Gentlemen,

" The necessity of the king's affairs, and the safety of the country at this juncture, " requiring that every good Scotsman should be assisting to the public according to his ability; and " having desired that the sum of L.2000 sterling be " borrowed from gentlemen heritors, particularly from " burghers, tradesmen, and others, residing within the " town of Aberdeen, for the use of the king's army, " for which they shall have the public credit, to be " repaid with interest from the time of advance:—I " therefore thought it fit to acquaint you therewith, " that you proportion it among them in such a manner as may be most easy for the inhabitants, and " most effectual for raising the said sum. Your speedy " complying therewith will prevent further trouble. "—I am, Gentlemen, Yours, &c. MAR."

The people of Aberdeen were well affected to the Pretender's cause, but they thought it rather *unconscion-*

able

able in Mar to demand so great a sum, and therefore restricted it to the one half. About the middle of December, the Pretender arrived at Peterhead from France, and came to Aberdeen *incognito*, where he dined in the house of Alexander Scott, shipmaster in the Castlegate; thence he went to Fetteresso, and passed by the high road to Perth.

At a meeting of the head-court, the 21st January, 1716, the provost produced the Pretender's proclamation, dated at Scone, the 10th January, requiring all those able to bear arms to repair to his camp at Perth. The provost made a motion, that the town should raise a troop of horse for his majesty's (the Pretender's) service, and that L.500 should be levied to support them, of which the meeting unanimously approved. The duke of Argyle, however, having advanced to attack the rebels at Perth, they did not think it proper to wait his approach, and retreated northwards. The pusillanimous Chevalier de St. George embarked at Montrose, and left his army to shift for itself, which was disbanded at Aberdeen by the earl Marischal*.

The alteration of circumstances produced a change of the magistrates and council of Aberdeen. Those gentlemen who had been in office previously to the rebellion, were ordered by an act of the privy council, to meet on the 10th of April, to elect new magistrates, to be continued until next Michaelmas, which was accordingly done, and Robert Stewart was chosen provost.

On

* Guthrie, vol. x. p. 397.

On the 10th of June this year, it was enacted by the magistrates and council, that no person within the town or suburbs should thatch his house with heath or straw, but that all houses should be covered with slates or tyles, under the penalty of fifty merks Scots.

The following gentlemen were provosts for the years respectively prefixed to their names, viz. 1716-17, John Gordon; 1718-19, George Fordyce; 1720-21, Robert Stewart; 1722-23, George Fordyce; 1724, 25, Robert Stewart; 1726-27, George Fordyce; 1728-29, William Cruickshank; 1730-31, James Morrison.—In this year, Robert Gordon, of the family of Straloch died, and bequeathed from L.10,000 to L.11,000 sterling, towards the erection of an hospital for the maintenance and education of burghers and tradesmen's sons in Aberdeen.

In the years 1732-33, William Cruickshank was provost: for 1734-35, Hugh Hay; 1736-37, John Robertson; 1738-39, William Chalmers was provost. On the 1st of January, 1740, the magistrates and council, with a number of the principal inhabitants, went in procession to the Woolman-hill, where they laid the foundation-stone of the Infirmary. This was a proud day for the people of Aberdeen, as they were employed in the cause of humanity, and consecrated to the good of mankind, a noble monument of benevolence and virtue.

For the year 1740-41, Alexander Robertson was provost; for 1742, Alexander Anderson; 1743, Alexander Aberdein. In 1744, James Morrison was provost. The crop this year was destroyed by rain.

It

It began to fall on the 8th of September, and continued with little intermission for six weeks. The harvest had been previously commenced, but the unfavourable weather disappointed the hopes of the husbandman; and in the following year, the country was thrown into confusion by the pretensions of the Stuart family to the throne of these kingdoms.

Our limits will not permit us to enter minutely into the public transactions of that period, and therefore we can only notice such incidents as relate to the city of Aberdeen.

Prince Charles Stuart landed on the north-west coast of Scotland in the month of August, 1745, and erected the royal standard. He was joined by several of the Highland clans, which formed a small army. General Sir John Cope marched with a few regiments to suppress the rebellion, and reached Inverness. But the prince's army made a rapid movement to the south, and took possession of Edinburgh. Sir John Cope retreated from Inverness to Aberdeen, where he arrived on the 11th of September, and encamped on the Dove Cot Brae. He was anxious to protect the capital of Scotland, and had ordered transports to meet him at Aberdeen, to carry his army to Dunbar, where he arrived on the 17th; but the Highlanders had on that day occupied Edinburgh. Sir John Cope, before sailing, applied to the magistrates of Aberdeen for the town's cannon and small arms, which he received, and shipped on board of his transports.

On the 25th September, the day of election of the magistrates and council, John Hamilton, factor (steward)

ard) to the duchess-dowager of Gordon, entered Aberdeen with a number of Strathbogie men on horseback. They proclaimed the Pretender king of these realms at the cross, and afterwards took possession of the town-house, which prevented the election of the magistrates for that year. Lord Lewis Gordon was appointed governor of Aberdeen by Prince Charles, and he nominated William Moir of Lonmay, his deputy.

Lord Lewis raised a regiment consisting of two battalions, and took up his head-quarters at Aberdeen. He imposed a tax on the proprietors of land, who were obliged to furnish him with one able-bodied man, or five pounds sterling for every hundred pounds Scots of valued rent; and he constantly kept parties scouring the country to collect men and money*. To prevent the levy of this arbitrary assessment, by which the enemy supported himself, Macleod of Macleod, and Munro of Culcairn, were sent by lord Loudon from Inverness to Inverury with six hundred and fifty men. Lord Lewis marched his own regiment, and part of lord John Drummond's, with three hundred Farquharsons, under Farquharson of Monaltry, to attack Macleod and Munro at Inverury. It was late before lord Lewis reached the place (23d December). It was, however, moon light, and the firing began on both sides, and continued for some time. But lord John Drummond's soldiers, and the Farquharsons, charged the Macleods, who gave way, and precipitately fled. Few men were killed

* Home's History of the Rebellion, p. 258.

killed on either side, but forty-one Macleods were taken prisoners; among whom were some gentlemen of consideration. Soon after this skirmish, lord Lewis Gordon marched his men to join the rebel army at Perth, which was the place of their general rendezvous*.

On the 27th of February, 1746, the duke of Cumberland arrived at Aberdeen with the whole of his army, where he remained until the 8th of April. His forces were divided about the end of March into three large bodies: one lay at Strathbogie, another at Old Meldrum, and the third at Aberdeen, where the duke himself commanded.

On the 8th of April, the duke marched from Aberdeen with the rear-division of his army, and advancing northwards, concentrated his troops at Cullen, in the neighbourhood of the river Spey, which he passed. Both armies came in contact on Culloden-muir, on the 16th of April. The Highlanders made a fierce attack on the king's army, but they were everywhere repulsed, broken, and dispersed. A great many were killed in the battle, and in the pursuit. The rebellion was crushed; forfeitures and executions followed; and the hopes of the house of Stuart were annihilated. Prince Charles, after many hair-breadth escapes, and suffering innumerable hardships, got on board of a French frigate, and arrived at Roscort, near Morlaix, in Britanny, on the 29th of September, 1746†.

During

* Home's History of the Rebellion, p. 159.

† Ibid. p. 261.

During the duke of Cumberland's residence in Aberdeen, he appointed twelve of the principal burgesses to govern and manage the affairs of the town, until peace should be restored to the country. This board of management consisted of the following gentlemen, viz. William Cruikshank, John Robertson, William Chalmers, Alexander Robertson, Alexander Aberdein, and James Morrison, late provosts; William Mowat, William Gordon, and John Burnett, late bailies; Andrew Logie, late dean of guild; Alexander Thomson, consultor; and John Auldjo, conveener of trades.

When the rebellion was suppressed, his majesty's privy council sent an order to the members of the old and new council to meet in the town-house on the 9th July, and to proceed to finish the election, which was interrupted at last Michaelmas by Mr. Hamilton, which was accordingly done, and John Morrison was elected provost.

For the year 1746-47, William Chalmers was chief magistrate; for 1748-49, Alexander Robertson; for 1750-51, Alexander Livingstone. At Michaelmas next year, a dispute took place among the magistrates and council, who were equally divided—one of their number having gone abroad. It is represented, that provost Livingstone wished to form a junto of his own friends, that he might retain the influence of the town, which was resisted by some of the members. They absented themselves on Michaelmas day, conceiving that the provost would not proceed to the election without the necessary number to constitute a quorum. Livingstone,

with

with his friends, however, proceeded in the election of the magistrates and council; and James Morrison was chosen provost. A process of reduction was raised before the court of session by the absentees; but the earl of Findlater, who then interfered in the politics of the town, accomplished a reconciliation of the parties. He gave them an entertainment in his lodgings, and by wine, soothed their asperity, and cemented their union.

The following gentlemen were provosts of Aberdeen for the years prefixed to their names, viz. 1753, James Morrison; 54-55, William Mowat; 56-57, Alexander Robertson; 58-59, John Duncan; 60-61, William Davidson; 62-63, John Duncan; 64-65, George Shand; 66-67, John Duncan; 68-69, James Jopp; 70-71, George Shand; 72-73, James Jopp; 74-75, Adam Duff; 76-77, James Jopp; 78-79, William Young; 80-81, James Jopp; 82-83, William Young.

The state of the presbyterian church for a good many years after the Revolution, may be known by the following excerpts from the presbytery register.

Excerpts from the Presbytery Register of Aberdeen.

The formation of the presbyterian government in this part of the country, after the Revolution, seems to have been in the following manner.

1694—" 11th July. At session-house, in the New Kirk, Aberdeen, there convened, by an appointment of the committee of the late General Assembly: For the north, a committee of three persons; Mr. William Dunlop, principal of Glasgow: of seven ministers in this country; and two gentlemen, and two citizens,

ruling elders. The advice from the committee for the north was, 1. That all the brethren of the presbyterians within the synod, should form one united presbytery. 2. That an elder from each congregation, where an eldership was instituted, should attend. 3. That a register be kept. 4. That business from sessions should be received and cognosced. 5. That none, continuing attached to, and brought in by, episcopacy, be received: And none be transported without advice of the committee. They were to call ministers, and appoint elders, attached to presbytery, and the present government."——" Upon five of these seven ministers applying to the committee for the north, signing their confession of faith, and agreeing to the terms of union given out by the last assembly, they were admitted into the presbyterian communion, and advised to form a presbytery. The ministers who had attached themselves to this scheme, were, Mr. Arthur Mitchell, eldest minister of Turriff; Mr. George Anderson of Tarves; Mr. David Lyndsay of Drumoak; Mr. Patrick Innes of Banff; Mr. William Johnston of Kerne; Mr. William Thomson of Achindore; Mr. William Garioch of Kinethmont: and Mr. William Fraser of Slains."

1694—" The town of Aberdeen called Mr. Thomas Ramsay, minister at Calder, near Glasgow." He afterwards protested he would not come to Aberdeen, unless another minister also be appointed."

——" Ministers from the south were sent to supply vacancies."

——" Mr. James Osburne, minister at Kilmarnock,

nock, in the presbytery of Irvine, was called to Aberdeen. He was afterwards (1698) presented, and called to be professor of divinity in Aberdeen, and much employed by the presbytery about papers, and things of moment."

1694—" The presbytery met often at Turriff."

———Vacant stipends were collected for paying ministers and probationers preaching during vacancies " in this desolate part of the Lord's vineyard."

1697—" The ministers within the synod who formed before one presbytery, were divided into three presbyteries. That of Aberdeen and Kincardine consisted of Mr. James Osburne, and Mr. Thomas Ramsay, in the town of Aberdeen; Mr. William Thomson in Kintore; Mr. David Lyndsay in Dalmaik; Mr. Alexander Thomson in Peterculter; and Mr. Thomas Kinniar in Echt," said then to be in Kincardine.

1697—" A quaker kept school in Kinkell, to the great scandal of the people, and to perverting the youth."

1698—17th February.—" Last Sabbath, at Newhills, Margaret Jaffray, daughter of Andrew Jaffray of Kingswells, coming with other quakers, entered the church, and cried, 'Do not believe that deceiver;' and said, she was sent of God to tell them He was about to destroy all idolatry and will-worship."

———A fast was usually kept on the Sunday before the ordination of ministers.

———" Mass had been said in Count Leslie's house, Aberdeen, by his brother.—There were then

four priests in Aberdeen, and a nunnery of six young women*; and a school kept by two papist women for young children."

1698—" The presbytery were asked to call legally a minister to vacant parishes. They refused to appoint a minister themselves, but sent a leet to the people, with power to them to choose one of those, or any other, for their minister."

———The presbytery met at ten o'clock, forenoon, but did little business at that meeting. They met again at two o'clock, afternoon, and did a great deal. And at times, by three o'clock, more frequently.

———The committee of the General Assembly met sometimes in considerable number at Aberdeen.

———" The synod now consisted of Aberdeen, Angus, and Mearns."

1699—" The presbytery adjourned with prayer."

———" The ministers were themselves (probably in rotation), clerks to the presbytery."

———15th November.—" No probationer was within the bounds of the presbytery of Aberdeen for the laird of Skene to choose for minister."

———" The trading company to Africa and the Indies, at this time, was prayed for publicly."

1700—" The Kincardine presbytery was disjoined by the synod."

———" Mr. Thomas Blackwell, by act of assembly, transported from Paisley to Aberdeen."

———" A complaint was made to the commission of

* It is thought the nunnery was in the Guestrow.

of the General Assembly, That Sabbath is profaned by fishing on Dee and Don, and by riding journeys on that day. Also, of apostatizing to popery and quakerism. Likewise, that the doctrine of Bourignon was prevailing. And that excommunicated persons contemned the sentence, and others conversed usually with them."

1700—" Dr. George Garden (of Aberdeen), prosecuted for writing and spreading an Apology for Bourignonism."—*He was afterwards deposed by the General Assembly.*

———" In Aberdeen there were eighty papists: the lairds Cairnfield, Hilton, and Kingoodie, and lady Wartel, the principal.—Fifty quakers: Andrew Jeffray of Kingswelles, and Alexander Jelly of Blackford, the principal. The quakers had their meetings, and preached in church-yards at burials, and on dismissing congregations, reviling the ministers. Episcopalians were accused of protecting incumbents, not presbyterians, and employing unqualified persons, who baptized with the sign of the cross, and kneeled in pulpit in time of saying the Lord's prayer: rites unknown from the Reformation. Incumbents protected Arminians, Socinians, Bourignonists: some of them were immoral; all grossly ignorant." Lists of papists, &c. seem to have been made up to be transmitted to the General Assembly.

1701—" Not to be above four friends, with servants, besides near relations and family, at a marriage —by act of General Assembly. Prohibited (by presbytery), piper and fiddler, as promoting lasciviousness,

if there be a penny bridal, or promiscuous dancing." —" A collection, by order of the Assembly, for the harbour of Banff."—" Another, for the harbour of Eyemouth." Collection at Aberdeen, L.9 5s. Scots. At Old Machar, L.15 Scots, for this last.

1701—" The manse of Old Machar to be covered with tyles; the minister giving thirty merks."

———" There was an act of synod against transplantation of ministers within their bounds."

———" They sent to Edinburgh, and got persons fled from discipline. The session of North West Kirk gave a woman money to carry her to Aberdeen, having been cited to attend here."

1703—" Mr. Colin Campbell (father of the late principal Campbell), was called to be minister in Aberdeen, as third minister. There was a protest entered for Mr. Andrew Burnet, former episcopal incumbent, against the magistrates calling another in his room, he having taken the oaths; and by the municipal law of the burgh, ten being the least number (of council), to choose; whereas there were fewer for Mr. Campbell. Also, it was asserted, that the principal, and most numerous part of the people, were against him. It was answered, that Mr. Burnet had not taken the oaths in time. He had set up preaching in the Trinity Church. Mr. Campbell was settled minister.

———29th April.—" Calls used to be approved in Aberdeen, by the head-court, especially where any controversy took place, as in the case of Mr. Paterson and Mr. Meldrum."

———" For support of two foundlings, each minister

nister of Aberdeen was to pay in two dollars, and each minister in the country, twenty shillings Scots."

1703—" Dr. Blair, alone, in Aberdeen, of the prelatical ministers, observed an appointed fast."

1704—" Each minister contributed three pounds Scots, as the least, for promoting schools in the Highlands (minimum), according to act of assembly for a subscription."

1704—" Each minister was to pay four pounds Scots, for Highland libraries."

1705—" In the session of Aberdeen, as members, were the provost, an old provost, several bailies, and the dean of guild."

———" A woman for adultery and fornication, with prevarication, besides church-censure, ordered to be whipped and banished, by the magistrates."

———" Each minister to add from himself, one pound Scots, to what was paid to the presbytery bursar."

1706—" A collection of L.1 10s. Scots, each minister, appointed by presbytery for a poor man."

———30th October.—" Act of the commission of Assembly for a fast, on account of the affair of the union, on 14th November, to stir up themselves and people; and to meet with the elders and godly people for private prayer, on some day before; and a part of the day of next meeting of presbytery to be spent so by themselves."

———" Recommendation of the commission to prevent tumults in view to the union."—In respect to " lamentable complaints of increase of popery—to send.

send some probationers, skilled in the popish controversy, to oppose the priests in wide parishes, and assist in preaching, for which each minister should contribute a half of his half-year's stipend, to which the elders were to add: to be managed by a committee about Edinburgh."

1707—" In Aberdeen, at a visitation of the presbytery, it was answered, that the elders, for what they knew, had family worship and order in their houses, and were free of vice. The magistrates were friendly and assisting. The people had sad divisions among themselves, which made many withdraw from their ministry, and vice did much abound. Each minister had L.1000 Scots of stipend, and a chaldron of coals: The session-clerk, 160 merks. There were two beddals, one of which kept the register."

1708—" Each minister to pay ten shillings sterling, for assisting the society for propagating Christian knowledge, and setting up charity-schools, and to excite others to contribute."—" The town of Aberdeen had subscribed" to the scheme above.

———" Town of Aberdeen collected for Mr. John James Cæsar, by appointment of assembly, the sum of L.23 7d. sterling, for the Protestant German congregation at London."

1711—3d May.—" On death of professor Osburne, Mr. Thomas Blackwell was called to be professor of divinity. The episcopal party pushed for Mr. Andrew Burnet, officiating in a meeting-house, being admitted to a charge in the high churches."

1711—" Mr. Francis Melville, minister of Arbuthnot, chosen to be minister in Aberdeen. He was appointed by act of assembly.

———" Four persons abjured popery."

———" An act of synod for neighbouring presbyteries to supply in a vacancy at Aberdeen."

1712—" The presbytery met every three weeks."

1717—3d July.—" Mr. Richard Maitland, episcopal incumbent at Neig, was deposed for praying for James the VIII.

1717—" The presbytery allowed the episcopal ministers, if sound and moral, to be not under the law: but if unsound or immoral, to be under the law."

———" Principal Chalmers was recommended by the presbytery to continue also professor of divinity (saving the right of the town-council to call another), although appointed principal."

1720—" The members of the presbytery appointed not to leave the presbytery without liberty obtained, till all be done; and the roll to be called at dismissing, that absentees be censured."

———25th August.—" At visitation by presbytery, of the city of Aberdeen, the ministers represented, that they had used endeavours to set up family-worship, not altogether without success. The magistrates curbed vice; but sin and division abounded. Each minister had L.1000 Scots, with a chaldron of coals. There had been L.13,740 Scots, mortified [for the poor], on Easter Skene and Carny: L.1000 Scots, by Dr. Lewis Gordon; L.333 Scots, by provost Mitchel;

chel; L.333, by provost Allardes; L.200 Scots, by bailie Ragg; besides some debts due.

1723—" *Ghost-raw*, Aberdeen.—N. B. In charters, the Broad Street is called, " The Broad-gate of the Gallowgate of Aberdeen."

1724—By people voting in a call to a minister, were meant heads of families of presbyterian persuasion, attending ordinances, not mere communicants. " The assembly appointed call by majority of heads of families."—" Mr. Colin Campbell, minister of Aberdeen, usually collected at the synod, and gave to indigent persons, according to the appointment of synod."

CHAPTER

CHAPTER II.

CONTENTS.

[THE CORPORATION FEU OFF THE COMMON PROPERTY—NEW STREET IMPROVEMENTS—POPULATION—POLICE BILL—HARBOUR BILLS.]

* * * *

IT is of late years that the CITY OF ABERDEEN has so greatly increased in extent and population. Previously to the union, this town, like most others in Scotland, had been nearly stationary for several centuries. The royalty of the borough extends no farther than the parish of St. Nicolas, which is embraced by that of St. Machar, which comprehends Gilcomston, the suburbs, and all the lands to the bridge of Dee. As the walls enclosed the town on the one side, and North-street, with Frederick-street, and the buildings in that quarter, did not exist, there were but few houses, until of late years, beyond the royalty. Where

Gilcomston

Gilcomston is situated, which now contains so many people, and occupies so much space as to form an extensive village, there was only a single farm-house in the year 1756*. A few years before that period, the Lochlands, on the north-west side of the town, were in an uncultivated state, for, it is said, that Alexander Robertson of Glasgowego, rented from the corporation, one acre and one-sixth, at three pounds ten shillings annually, which he trenched, manured, and laid down with grass†, and afterwards let at the yearly rent of ten pounds sterling‡.

In consequence of the success of provost Robertson's experiment, the magistrates were induced to feu off the lands belonging to the community; and we must allow them the merit of having been very active in thus alienating the public property. The following list of subjects feued out by the town of Aberdeen since the year 1747, is extracted from Douglas's "Description" (p. 178), and is presented to the reader as a convincing proof of the magistrates' diligence in disposing of the landed property of the corporation, which has no doubt tended to promote the "common guid." But "besides" this list, "there was a great "deal of outfield and barren ground, on the three "farms of Gilcomstown, and on the other farms in the "freedom, feued out by the town§."

Abstract

* Douglas's Description of the East Court, p. 156.

† This was the first artificial grass that was raised in the fields in this neighbourhood.

‡ Douglas, p. 157.

§ Ibid. p. 179.

Abstract of barren ground feued out by the town of Aberdeen, since the year 1747

	Acres.
The lower part of the Stocket, in thirteen lots, at 5s. per acre, supposed to contain about	100
Moor, on the south of Gordon's mills, at 5s. per acre - - - - -	100
Upper part of the Stocket, at an average, at 2s. 6d. ditto. - - - -	192
Springfield - - - - -	30
Cairncry, at 2s. - - - -	14
Another lot of ditto, at 5s. - - -	16
Barren ground, supposed to have been on the farms of Whitemires and Gillahill - -	50
To Sir Archibald Grant, and Sir William Johnston, part of which is planted, the rest unimproved - - - - -	100
The large planted park on the Stocket -	82
Barren ground improved on the farms of Ferryhill and Cooperstown - - -	30
On the lands of Pitmuckston - - -	20
On the lands of Ruthrieston - - -	50
On the lands of Foresterhill - - -	78
On Barkmill and Clerkseat - - -	10
On Woodside - - - - -	40
On Auchmull - - - - -	45
On Froghall - - - - -	40
On Cotton - - - - -	46
On Rubislaw, some so high as 26s. per acre -	130
Carried forward,	1223

	Acres.
Brought forward,	1223
On Oldmill - - - - -	20
On Hazlehead - - - - -	60
Total,	1303

The improvement and extension of the city of Aberdeen were reserved for modern times. Marischal-street, Queen-street, and many other streets, have been but lately erected. Union and King streets are not yet finished, and many others are in a similar state (1st August, 1811); but if the spirit for building shall continue unabated for only a few years, the area of the town, as presently lined out, will no doubt be filled up with commodious and elegant houses. Supposing the town and suburbs of Aberdeen, exclusive of Gilcomston, to consist of fifty-three streets and lanes, thirty-seven of these are either new, or of modern erection*. This calculation evinces the rapid increase of Aberdeen within these few years; but the greater part of these streets have been planned since the year 1801.

An act was passed, 4th April, 1800, "for opening "and making two new streets in the city of Aber-"deen." The preamble to this act, sets forth, that "the principal avenues to the centrical parts of the "town, from the south and north, are narrow, indi-"rect, and incommodious." In consequence of this act, Union and King streets were opened, and the approaches

* It must be observed, that population has not increased in the same proportion.

approaches to the centre of the town, from the bridges of Dee and Don, are now perfectly distinct, which was by no means the case before this great improvement took place.

By this act, the trustees were empowered to purchase from the proprietors, the houses and lands in the line of the direction of these streets or avenues, to the extent of one hundred and sixty feet in breadth, of which sixty feet are to be appropriated for the street, and fifty on each side, for the areas of the houses. The expense of purchasing the different properties of these streets—the erection of the bridge over the Denburn, and otherwise following out the act—must be defrayed from the sale of the materials of the houses pulled down—the sale of areas—and the annual proceeds of the feus granted as stances for new buildings.

The magistrates and council, as a corporation, have embarked in this undertaking with great ardour, and the sum expended in purchasing the various areas, houses, &c. necessary for this great work, could only be furnished by pledging the funds of the community; and it is supposed, that L.100,000 sterling, have been already expended. After the disbursements, however, have been liquidated, the *overplus*, or *profit*, must be paid by the trustees to the treasurer of the town, for the behoof of the community. But, considering the magnitude of the work, and the great expense that has been necessarily incurred, it is probable, the treasurer will not soon have the pleasure of receiving much "sur-" plus" from the trustees. It would be unfair, however,

to estimate the value of an improvement of this kind, by the result of a dull statement of debtor and creditor, which would neither correspond with that ardency of mind which gave birth to the measure, nor, at the present day, answer any useful purpose to the citizens of Aberdeen.

The improvement of the town, by the erection of these streets, and the easy access from the south or the north, to the market-place, are solid and permanent advantages, not only to Aberdeen itself, but to the surrounding country. The projector, therefore, who suggested the plan, and those who have executed it, are equally deserving of our warmest praise, as having greatly contributed to the elegance of the city of Aberdeen.

The population of the two parishes of St. Nicolas and St. Machar, which include the city of Aberdeen, its suburbs, and the Old Town, has greatly increased since the year 1755, the amount then being only 15,730 souls. But an astonishing increase has taken place within these ten years, as evinced by the following comparative list of the number in the years 1801 and 1811.

1801.—*St. Nicolas' Parish.*—Footdee Quarter, 3665.—Green Quarter, 2961.—Crooked Quarter, 5727.—Even Quarter, 5224.—Absentees, 460.—18,057

St. Machar contained - - 9,911

27,968

being the total population in the year 1801, of both parishes.

In

In consequence of the late act of parliament, an account of the population of Aberdeen and St. Machar has been taken in the most accurate manner; and the author is happy that he has it in his power to present to the reader, the following statistical table, which shews the rapid increase of the population of Aberdeen, since the year 1801.

PARISHES.	St. Nicolas, 1811.	St. Machar, 1811.	Total,
Houses Building.	17	20	37
Inhabited Houses.	1895	1784	3679
Uninhabited Houses.	52	95	147
Number of families.	6555	3659	10,214
Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.	81	589	670
Families chiefly employed in Trade, Manufactures, and Handycrafts.	3495	2849	6344
All other Persons, not included in the other two Divisions.	2978	221	3199
Males.	8710	5790	14,500
Females.	12,919	7941	20,860
Total of Persons.	21,629	13,751	35,380

N. B. The above enumeration does not include sea-faring and military men.

POLICE ACT.

THE most important improvements which have been accomplished in Aberdeen, have originated from the police act. The extension of a town by new buildings is a consequence that naturally follows the increase of population; but it has been generally questioned, and it is yet problematical, how far it may contribute to the happiness of mankind, to collect them together in great bodies within the precincts of a city. It is a clear position, that the number of people in any state must be regulated entirely by the quantity of subsistence, as the human species will increase or diminish according to the abundance or deficiency of food. If the produce of Great Britain, therefore, be only adequate to the maintenance of its present inhabitants, their happiness cannot be promoted by assembling them into crowded cities, where they are exposed to diseases, arising from corrupted air, and to the pernicious effects of dissipation, proceeding from causes incident to a mixed society, and consequently, are subjected to a greater proportion of human misery than they would otherwise be, if resident in hamlets, or altogether in the country.

In a commercial nation, the conveniency of conducting trade, has drawn great masses of the population of the country to particular spots; and the mutual support which the two classes of merchants and manufacturers afford to each other, by their combination, and the exchange of their commodities, are the

ordinary

ordinary causes which have produced overgrown cities. Although Aberdeen cannot be considered as a town of the first magnitude, yet there is reason to presume, that it will become so at no distant period; and therefore, every measure which is calculated to promote the comfort of the citizens, by counteracting the bad effects of a crowded population, must be deemed an improvement of the highest importance.

The original endowments of all the royal boroughs of Scotland, were professedly granted "for the "maintenance of honesty and good policie," as the different statutes belonging to them invariably express; and in the language of these institutions, they are denominated the "common guid" of the borough. But a deficiency of these funds, arising from various causes, rendered it necessary for the inhabitants of Aberdeen to submit to an assessment by authority of parliament, for obtaining "pavement, lamps, and "water."

The object of the police act is sufficiently expressed by its title, being for the "better paving, "lighting, cleansing, and otherwise improving, the "streets, lanes, and other public passages of the city "of ABERDEEN, and the roads and avenues within the "royalty thereof; for the better supplying the inha-"bitants with fresh water; and for removing and "preventing all obstructions and annoyances within "the said city and royalty."

This excellent act took effect on the 1st day of June, 1795, and remains in force for twenty-one years, and thence to the end of the then next session of parliament.

ment. The execution of it has been wisely committed to thirteen commissioners, being resident occupiers, and possessors of dwelling-houses, shops, cellars, &c. of the yearly rent of ten pounds sterling, or upwards. Eight of these commissioners are biennially elected upon the first Tuesday of July, by the whole occupiers and possessors of dwelling-houses, &c. of the rent of five pounds sterling, or upwards, being resident within the royalty of the borough. The other five commissioners are nominated by the thirteen in office, previously to the biennial election, from those eight chosen at the last general meeting; so that the new board of police consists of five of the old commisioners, and eight new members, elected in terms of the act.

The manner of conducting the election is admirable, and worthy of imitation, wherever it is necessary to collect the voice of the people. Those qualified to vote, have only to send in to the court on the day of election, a signed list, containing the names of the eight gentlemen whom they wish to be commissioners for the ensuing two years. These lists are carefully compared, and those persons who have the greatest number of suffrages, are accordingly declared to be duly elected. There is neither noise, bustle, nor confusion, while the election is going on, and the whole business is conducted with the greatest propriety and decorum.

The commissioners of police being thus appointed, they proceed to fulfil the duties of their office, which comprehend almost every thing relative to the economy

of

of the town, without trenching on the rights or jurisdiction of the magistrates as a corporation, or on the rights and properties of individuals. As the objects of the institution are extensive, the funds required to accomplish the various improvements must be ample, and an assessment accordingly is levied from the occupiers of dwelling-houses, shops, cellars, and other buildings, not exceeding one shilling per pound of annual rent, excepting the houses of paupers and others, under twenty-five shillings yearly, which are exempted, and limiting the largest manufacturing house to the assessment corresponding to fifty pounds of annual rent, however much it may exceed that sum in the rent or value.

In terms of the act, an annual statement of the accounts is made up, exhibited, and published, which contains a clear exposition "of all the monies receiv-" ed and paid, by virtue, or in pursuance of this act, " and for what purposes the same have been laid out, " paid, and expended." To this statement is generally prefixed, an explanatory preface, which illustrates the various items of the accounts, and also shews the necessity of the improvements already accomplished, or of those intended to be pursued.

The contraction of debt was unavoidable, because it was found requisite, in order to give efficacy to the intention of the bill, to expend a greater sum for a few years, than the annual assessment could discharge. But that debt has been gradually reduced, and at present (30th March, 1811), amounts to no more than

L.3591

L.3591 : 0 : 5 sterling, including all unsettled accounts. The following abstract from the last report, will shew the exact amount of the receipt and expenditure, by the board, since its establishment in the year 1795.

ABSTRACT ACCOUNT of the RECEIPT and EXPENDITURE by the COMMISSIONERS OF POLICE,

From June, 1795, *to* 30*th March*, 1811.

RECEIPT.

	L.	*s.*	*d.*
To cash, amount received for assessment - - - - -	16,184	15	4
To cash, ditto ditto for dung	3,289	0	0½
To cash, amount still due on Police Bonds - - - - -	1,000	0	0
To cash, amount due the bank -	1,863	9	5
Total Received....L.	22,637	4	9½

EXPENDITURE.

	L.	*s.*	*d.*
By cash paid, expence of obtaining Police Act - - - - -	690	2	6
By cash paid sundries, repairing and paving streets - - - -	4,447	15	0½
By cash paid, expence on the street lamps - - - - -	7,154	15	6
Carried forward, L.	12,292	13	0½

By

	L.	s.	d.
Brought forward,	12,292	13	0½
By cash paid, expence on wells and water-course - - - -	2,712	5	0½
By cash paid, ditto of bringing into town, an additional supply of water, by the new cast iron main on the higher course - -	2,130	11	3
By cash paid sundries, interest -	1,835	6	0½
By cash paid sundries, salaries -	1,889	14	7
By cash paid, expence of building the gunpowder magazine, and repairs - - - - - -	325	10	10
By cash paid sundries, for ground taken to widen the streets and lanes - - - - -	464	15	7
By cash paid sundry miscellaneous accounts, and petty charges -	654	1	9½
TOTAL EXPENDITURE.....	22,604	18	2
Cash, Balance in treasurer's hands.....	32	6	7½
	L.22,637	4	9½

N. B.—The Floating Debt (including L.1863 9s. 5d., as above, due to the bank, for which the directors consider the commissioners, as representatives of the public, personally bound; and sundry accounts unsettled for oil, lamp-globes, &c. L.727 11s.), is at this date, 30th April, 1811, - L.2,591 0 5

Besides ten bonds, of one hundred pounds each, to be paid in five years - - - 1,000 0 0

L.3,591 0 5

The

The utility of the board of police is fully evinced, by the extent and variety of the improvements which have been effected since its commencement. All the streets have been repaired, and foot-pavements have been added, and several have been entirely new paved. An abundant supply of water has been brought into the town, which before was extremely deficient, so much so, that the pipes scarcely furnished twenty gallons per minute, while now the supply exceeds a hundred. The number of the lamps has been greatly increased*; all nuisances have been removed; and the streets are regularly cleaned. These are advantages which highly conduce to the comfort and health of the inhabitants, and have been obtained, through the prudent management of the board, at an expence comparatively trifling. The money collected from the people, is neither wasted in extravagance, nor spent in dissipation, but is faithfully applied to the purposes for which it is intended, in the most judicious and economical manner.—" During the course of fourteen years, no aid whatever has been received from the public funds. This is contrary to the practice in Perth, Dundee, and other similar burghs in Scotland, where 'the common good' furnishes every article of police, without any assessment on the inhabitants. But where, as in Aberdeen, a professed deficiency in the ordinary funds, obliges the inhabitants to submit to an assessment, 'the common good' should not, in reason, claim a total exemption. The error seems to have

* Formerly 108 only shewed " darkness visible," but now the town is illuminated by 700.

have been in not obtaining from the public funds a fixed, or average, sum annually, included in an explicit clause in the act, instead of an uncertain or optional one, which, while it held out a delusive hope, disappointed all reasonable expectation. This, however, may, and ought to be remedied in any future application to parliament, and both reason and justice require it should be so: for as the direct and proper objects of the public funds are to furnish the articles included in the general term Police, as explained in the act of parliament for Aberdeen, so should they supply a reasonable proportion of these, agreeable to their ability, and original destination. But there are other considerations which press this obligation, connected with good management, more forcibly on the mind. The assessment for police, by a fixed rate, is not the only municipal tax to which the inhabitants of Aberdeen are subjected. While they pay, for this professed purpose, one shilling in the pound, by the same rule they pay fourpence a pound for Commutation Road Money; fourpence a pound for support of a Bridewell; Rogue Money; the King's Subsidy, and other lesser items; not less collectively, we believe, than two shillings in the pound. These assessments, clear of all taxes to the state, are felt by an industrious population, and furnish an irresistible argument for economical management, strict application, and a distinct and satisfactory exhibition of accounts. It is the least the public have a right to look for from those who manage for them; and whether the obligation is tacit, or ex-

pressed, it is still binding on all public executors, who act for the community*."

Evident as are the advantages, and equitable and reasonable as are the principles on which this act was established, yet from the false notions of some of the gentlemen in the council and magistracy at the time, this statute, fraught with so many benefits to the community, was not obtained, without a severe struggle on the part of the citizens. The contest originated from the reluctance of the magistrates and council to yield the management solely into the hands of those who should be chosen commissioners by the inhabitants; and to this was joined, as an aggravating circumstance, a demand for a debt said to have been incurred in bringing into the town in the year 1707, a supply of spring-water, by leaden pipes—maintaining that supply—and improving the means of furnishing *nine* wells since that time, to the year 1794. This supply was scanty and inadequate, and the fact was acknowledged

* In the last session of parliament, the town of Perth obtained a police act, by which the revenue of the corporation is included, as forming a considerable portion of the fund for police. The funds of the community, or "common good" are thrown into, or mixed by this act with the common stock of the funds of police; and the corporations of the guild and artificers form, with the magistrates and council, a commission of management. That is, each trade chuses its deacon, and sends him annually, *ex officio*, as a member of council: and one of these seven deacons acts, of course, as a magistrate, or trades' bailie. The whole guildry also elect their dean annually; and the town-council, thus instituted, manage the combined fund of the community and assessment, collectively, furnishing out of it, lamps, pavement, watchmen, and constables.

ledged by both the council and the citizens. But, during the whole of this period, the inhabitants had been assessed by the authority of head-courts, for "water, paving the streets, and lighting the public "lamps," and of this assessment, the magistrates and council had the exclusive management. A sinking fund for the discharge of the well-debt, as it was called, had been established and increased at different periods since the year 1708; but although these specific sums had been regularly and annually paid into the treasury of Aberdeen, yet the general balance arising from the annual assessment had never been carried to account, as it ought to have been, for the purpose of extinguishing that debt. Under such circumstances, it was not likely that a set of intelligent men, who were fully acquainted with the principles of business, would suffer a demand of more than £3000 sterling, to be drawn, without investigation, from the new fund of assessment to be established by authority of parliament. An inquiry was instituted, therefore, which was committed to gentlemen who certainly conducted it with equal credit to themselves, and advantage to the community. The result was published, with a luminous preface, that explained the whole business in the most satisfactory manner; and it appeared, that the debt, so far from being justly due by the citizens, *was overpaid by several thousand pounds!*

"In looking over the statements," say the citizens in their preface (page 2), "the reader will observe, "that no interest is charged upon the balances of "money drawn from the citizens, till the year 1759,

" when the debt preceding that period was fully paid,
" and a balance remaining, in favour of the commu-
" nity, of £51 : 4 : 8¾; and it cannot escape notice,
" that in the year 1785, to which time the calcula-
" tions are brought down, upon the same calculation
" of interest by which the council have on their part
" been guided, the debt is overpaid by no less a sum
" than £4849; 16 : 1½; and that by the *recapitula-*
" *tion*, page 18, there has been actually sunk in the
" treasury from 1709 to 1785, a sum, exclusive of in-
" terest, amounting to L.2191 : 15 : 5¾. This sum
" had been increasing with considerable variation, from
" the commencement of the account; but from 1773
" till 1779, both years included, it had accumulated
" beyond all former precedent, by an increase in that
" short period of seven years, of L.1507 : 11 : 9.;"
and finally, the whole sum, with interest, amounted, as stated before, to L.4,849 : 16 : 1½ sterling.

Although the citizens were willing to submit to a new assessment for the proposed improvements, yet they were determined to resist the payment of the debt claimed by the magistrates, as well as the attempt to deprive them of the right of electing the board of commissioners. In consequence of this resolution, a committee of citizens, searched the records for the various *items* of the account relative to the alledged debt, which were published to shew the true state of the case, and to convince Parliament and the public, that how much soever they might be inclined to furnish what was necessary for convenience and comfort, yet they were resolutely bent on resistance

to

to every claim that was not founded in equity, and in justice. They had no objection to impute the differences in calculation to an erroneous mode of keeping the public accounts, but they claimed the benefit of the common rule, that "errors should be excepted."

In the meantime, those members of council who would admit of no relaxation or modification of the obnoxious clauses of that police-bill which they had framed, carried the business by petition into the house of commons, supported by nearly a hundred signatures; which the citizens opposed by a petition, subscribed by several thousands. As some of the members of the council, however, were averse to the measure, and desirous that the business should be settled by compromise rather than by contest, a corresponding wish was expressed by the delegates for the citizens, and an attempt accordingly was made to modify the bill, before it should go into parliament.

Mr. Ewen and Mr. Jameson, the delegates for the inhabitants, were invited to a conference in the house of Mr. Allardyce, in London, the then member for the Aberdeen district of boroughs, for the purpose of settling the matter by compromise. The two delegates from the town-council, Mr. Carnegie and Mr. Auldjo, did not appear, and this business, on the part of the magistrates, was left solely to Mr. Allardyce, who opened the conversation by saying, it was his opinion that the bill as it stood, was unexceptionable, and as his instructions were, to carry it through without alteration, he wished, to save all farther trouble, that they would agree to allow it to pass. The deputies replied, that

they could not help expressing extreme surprise at this very strange and unexpected proposal. They were unwilling to aggravate circumstances already sufficiently irritating, by supposing that there was a studied design to insult their constituents; but whatever might be his opinion, or that of the council, yet as upwards of three thousand of the inhabitants of Aberdeen had said, in a petition to parliament, then on the table of the house of commons, that "it was a bad bill," and that, as they themselves entertained precisely the same sentiments, they could not, in pure complaisance, and in a matter of such importance, alter their opinion. There were many clauses in the bill of which the inhabitants approved, but none more than that which fixed the rate of assessment; and, added they, "blot "out the well-debt, long since overpaid, and give the "choice of the commissioners to the inhabitants, and "they will cordially unite with you in a petition to "parliament that the bill may pass into a law.—To "this we pledge ourselves, on the part of the citizens." Mr. Allardyce answered, that he was sorry to say, he had no power to alter or modify, and that as his instructions were to press the passing of the bill in its then shape, he hoped no blame would be imputed to him in resisting the wishes of the citizens*.

Unfortunately

* It is a melancholy fact, that the members for Scotch boroughs, in general, consider themselves to be merely the representatives of the town's council, and not the representatives of the citizens at large, which they really ought to be, according to the constitution of parliament. This perversion of sentiment originates

Unfortunately these very reasonable proposals by the delegates for the citizens, were not acceded to by the gentlemen who were sent to London by the magistrates and council; and although the bill was successfully opposed in parliament during the session of 1794, it was attended with an expence to the citizens, of L.1000 sterling. In the interval, however, between that period and the next session of parliament, better sentiments prevailed, and the moderation of the majority of the council manifested itself by uniting with the committee of the citizens in compromising the objectionable clauses. The claim for the well-debt was relinquished, and no farther opposition was made to the citizens having the free election of the commissioners.

To expunge the well-debt was no more than an act of material justice; and there certainly was equity, wisdom, and propriety, in vesting the management of a fund drawn from the pockets of the citizens, in a body of commissioners chosen solely by themselves, who were to render, as they have done, an exhibition of all their transactions in an annual printed account, as well as to give free access to the documents and books on which it is founded. The experience of sixteen years proves the superior excellence of the establishment, beyond the possibility of cavil; during which time, the board have not cost the public one penny in personal expences.

The magistrates in every large town have, in their judicial

ginates from the wretched system of borough-government, and the defective mode of electing the members of parliament.

judicial capacity, in the present state of society, sufficient occupation in administering justice, and suppressing crimes. In Aberdeen, there is no less business of this kind than in other towns, and, under every circumstance, it appears strange, that the magistrates should have courted so much additional trouble as must naturally arise from the proper management of the funds under the police act.

Thus terminated a severe struggle between the magistrates and the people, who, by asserting their rights and privileges, have secured to themselves all the advantages of an economical and well conducted system of police. And as this act will expire in a few years, it is to be hoped that they will take care to renew it with enlarged powers, that its usefulness may be still farther extended.—While speaking of the police of Aberdeen, it may not be impertinent to remark, that the inhabitants have severely felt the want of regular city-watchmen, and patroles, to protect their property, and to secure the peace of the town. The funds of the corporation, under the management of the magistrates, it is to be presumed, are competent to this business, without any new assessment on the citizens. But if this shall really not be the case, they have only to publish annually a statement of their accounts, in imitation of the board of police, and which indeed it is their duty to do, and there can be no doubt but that the good sense of the citizens of Aberdeen would induce them to give liberal support to the measures of the magistrates and council.

In every view of this subject, there is manifest propriety

priety in leaving the whole of that establishment which relates to the public peace, and protection of the community at large—to the prevention and punishment of crimes, by a vigilant and active police of constables and watchmen—under the exclusive management of the magistracy, so as to prevent all involution, and jostling of jurisdiction. The erection of a bridewell, already built on an excellent scale and enlarged plan, to the expence of which the inhabitants contribute liberally by a parliamentary assessment, renders the propriety of this more peculiarly evident; nor is it less obvious, that the management of lamps, pavement, and water, should remain as it is, in a board of commissioners chosen by the inhabitants.

HARBOUR.

The harbour of Aberdeen, from being much exposed to the north-east wind, and terminating a long extent of sandy coast, is liable to be blocked up to a certain extent, or, in other words, a bar is formed, that prevents the entrance of ships of large dimensions. To preserve the commerce of the town, the citizens have been ever anxious to diminish the bar by every expedient in their power, and also to render the harbour more commodious, by deepening and cleansing it.

An act was accordingly obtained in 1773, for "deepening, cleansing, and making more commodi-" ous, the harbour of Aberdeen; for erecting new " piers and quays therein; and for regulating ships

" and

" and vessels standing into, and going out of, the said
" harbour."

The magistrates and city-council for the time being, are appointed trustees for putting this act in execution, and are empowered to collect certain additional dues on all goods exported and imported, and also, a certain tonnage duty on all ships, vessels, boats, &c.* either going out or coming into the harbour, for enabling them to effectuate the object of the act, which remained in force for twenty-one years, and thence to the end of the then next session of parliament.

In consequence of this act, the new pier was erected, which is a noble monument of the spirit, enterprise, and opulence of the town. In the year 1795, another act was passed, " to continue the term, and
" alter and enlarge the powers" of the former act, which states in the preamble, that " considerable
" progress has been made in making the works, and
" executing the powers by the said act given and
" granted, more particularly, in building at a great
" expence a principal north pier at the entrance of
" the said harbour, and other smaller piers adjacent;
" and sundry sums of money have been borrowed and
" expended for those purposes; but the said harbour
" and piers cannot be kept in repair, nor many useful
" and essential improvements in the said harbour com-
" pleted, unless the term of the said act be further con-

" tinued

* Open boats, under twenty tons, coming into the harbour, are exempted, except boats employed in unloading vessels in the bay of Aberdeen.

" tinued and enlarged, and some alterations made in " the said act."

Under the authority of this act, the magistrates have carried on various operations with the view to improve the harbour. But they thought it expedient to apply for a new statute to enlarge these powers, that they might accomplish a still more extensive plan of improvement, which had been suggested from the inefficacy of their attempts to remove the bar, and also, from the want of " wet docks, and graving, or dry " docks," which the extended trade of Aberdeen now required.

The preamble to this act (granted 18th May, 1810), sets forth the particular object of it, which is to empower the magistrates and city-council to borrow a larger sum of money than is mentioned in the preceding acts, and to increase the rates and duties on ships and goods, that they may be enabled to execute certain improvements exhibited on a plan by Mr. Thomas Telford, civil engineer. They are accordingly authorised to make new piers, docks, and other improvements, in correspondence with Mr. Telford's map; one copy of which must be placed in the hands of the sheriff-clerk, and another must remain with the magistrates and city-council.

This act took effect on the 1st day of July, 1810, and is to continue for the space of twenty-one years, and until the end of the then next session of parliament.

The rate of duty on all goods, merchandize, &c. loaded or unloaded at the port of Aberdeen, is fixed at

three

three-pence sterling, for every barrel-bulk; but on such commodities as are not charged by the barrel-bulk, the rate chargeable is regulated by the table subjoined*.—*(See at the end of this article.)*

The tonnage duty is declared to be on "all ships, "vessels, barks, boats, and lighters, registered at the "port of Aberdeen, one penny per ton."——"All "ships, and other vessels, belonging to British sub-"jects, not registered at the port of Aberdeen, one "penny, and one-third part of a penny per ton;"—"And all ships, and other vessels, belonging to aliens, "or persons who are not British subjects, and loading "or unloading within the said harbour, one shilling "and twopence per ton." There is also an anchorage duty of one penny per ton charged on vessels which enter the harbour either by stress of weather, wind-bound, or otherwise, and not loading or unloading.

These duties on ships and goods constitute the fund for accomplishing the projected improvements; and on the security of them, the trustees are empowered to borrow any sum, not exceeding, at any one time, one hundred and forty thousand pounds sterling.

That the citizens of Aberdeen may have some knowledge of the manner in which so great a sum may have been expended, it is enacted, "that an account of all "the monies which shall be borrowed, and duties and "other funds, which shall be levied or raised under, "or

* This rate of dues applies only to burgesses of guild, and the freemen of the incorporated trades: others must pay one-third more.

" or by virtue of this act, and also of all the monies " which shall be expended by the said magistrates " and city-council of Aberdeen," in completing the works, shall be kept separate from the other transactions of the corporation. The accounts must be submitted at Michaelmas yearly, to be audited and compared with the vouchers, to a committee of seven persons, viz. the sheriff-depute, the convener of the county, the president of the society of advocates, the president of the society of shipmasters, the president of the police-board, and two burgesses of guild. This committee is authorised to attend to the application of the money, and to challenge any article of expenditure that it may deem objectionable, " which shall " not afterwards be brought forward in the said ac- " counts."

This great undertaking excited much discussion when first agitated, and the bill was keenly opposed by a numerous and respectable body of citizens. The heavy rate of shore-dues alarmed many of the merchants and ship-owners, who seriously feared that a lasting burden would be entailed upon the trade of the town, without the accomplishment of any beneficial object. The known respectability of those gentlemen who resisted the passing of the act, sufficiently authorises the conclusion, that, in their opposition, they were actuated by the full conviction that the scheme was either not expedient, or would prove fruitless. We cannot suppose, that men of sound sense, and unimpeachable character, would wantonly object to a plan of improvement which they thought

 practicable,

practicable, and of real utility to the community. But on the other hand, it must be admitted, that those gentlemen who compose the magistracy and council, and also their supporters in this measure, are not inferior either in talents or in integrity to their opponents, and in justice, they deserve equal credit for the purity of their principles.

It was to be expected, indeed, that a contrariety of opinion should be entertained regarding a measure of such magnitude, and which involved consequences so important. But while both parties are acquitted of any sinister motive as influencing their conduct, it must be acknowledged, that the scheme is still of doubtful result. The opinions of the engineers, Telford and Jessop, are the sole basis on which the hopes of those who projected the work, and supported the bill, are founded. But unfortunately, other engineers of equal eminence, have expressed an opposite opinion, and by a contradiction in evidence, the matter is left in great uncertainty, and can only be determined by experiment. It is an admitted position, that the bar may be cleared away by a strong current of water, but the interior exertions are calculated to diminish the quantity of water which usually flows into the basin, and therefore, the force of the eflux water, when the tide retires, will be lessened, and consequently, the acting power of the current will be diminished. On the other hand, it may be argued, that the contraction of the water by the extension of piers, will occasion a stronger current than previously existed, so much so indeed, as to do more than counterbalance any bad effect

effect that may arise from the diminution of the quantity of water in the basin, and thus the bar may be removed to a greater distance from the mouth of the river. But arguments were not wanting on either side, although extremely unimportant in a question that can only be determined by experiment.

Although unanimity had prevailed in the town as to the expediency of the harbour improvements, yet there was an unsettled point subsisting between the magistrates and citizens. The mode of managing the funds, became the subject of contention. "The in-" habitants opposing the bill, proposed, that the ma-" nagement of the funds to be raised for new im-" provements, should be vested in the hands of com-" missioners, of whom *two-thirds* should be burgesses, " and one-third only of the town-council*." The people of Aberdeen had experienced the good effect of placing the management of the police into the hands of a committee, or board of private citizens; and they naturally wished to have this great work conducted n a similar manner. But the magistrates strongly resisted this reasonable proposition, which was certainly calculated to relieve them from much trouble. But whatever may have been the motives which induced the magistrates to reject this proposal, they certainly successfully exerted themselves to retain the management of the funds in their own hands.

The work has already commenced, and is carrying forward with the greatest activity, which is highly to

* Papers relative to the proposed improvements, &c. p. xxvi.

the credit of all concerned in the undertaking; and every man who is interested in the prosperity of Aberdeen must wish it success. The grandeur of the whole plan of "harbour improvements" naturally prepossesses the mind in its favour, and as it is sanctioned by the skill and experience of at least two professional and scientific men, there is strong reason to presume, that it will ultimately meet the sanguine expectations of its projectors, and that this city will have great cause to bestow commendation on those who have promoted the measure.

SCHEDULE of the rate of Dues on Goods not chargeable by the Barrel-bulk.

	L.	*s.*	*d.*
LIME and coals, per chalder - -	0	0	8
Beer, malt, oats, wheat, rye, and all other kinds of grain, per chalder - -	0	1	4
Salt, per 20 bolls - - - -	0	2	0
Onions and apples in bulk, per four bushels	0	0	4½
Bark, per chalder - - - -	0	1	4
Meal, per ditto - - - - -	0	1	0
The above articles, which were formerly liable in payment, either in syce bolls, or Saint Nicholas metts, are to pay in place thereof, during the continuance of this act, as follows (besides the above shore dues),			
Lime, per boll, two-fifths of a penny.			
Coals, per boll - - - - -	0	0	0½

Bear,

	L.	s.	d.
Bear, malt, oats, wheat, rye, and all other kinds of grain, per boll, two-thirds of a penny.			
Salt, per boll - - - - -	0	0	1
Onions and apples, per four bushels -	0	0	3
Bark, per boll - - - - -	0	0	1
Meal, per boll, two-thirds of a penny.			
Pantiles, per 1000 - - - -	0	1	0
Bricks, per 1000 - - - -	0	0	6
Iron, per ton - - - - -	0	1	6
Salmon and herring barrels, empty, per 32 gallons English - - -	0	0	1½
Salmon barrels packed, and herring barrels packed with pork, beef, or fish, per ditto ditto - - - - - -	0	0	3
Slates, per 1000 - - - - -	0	1	4
All (stones except as under) per L.100 sterling of the value at shipping and unshipping - - - - -	3	0	0
Causeway or carriageway stones, per ton (except pebble stones), - - -	0	0	2½
Causeway pebble stones, per ton - -	0	0	2
Pavement, crib, and building stones, per ton - - - - - -	0	0	5
Foreign grave stones, each - - -	0	9	0
Scots do. each - - - - -	0	6	0
Grind stones, per ton - - - -	0	6	0
Turin, or other flag stones, per 20 square feet - - - - - -	0	0	4

	L.	s.	d.
Mill stones, each - - - -	0	2	0
Wald, per last of 1000 weight - -	0	3	0
Horns in bulk, per 1000 - - -	0	1	8
Plaister hair, per ton - - - -	0	3	4
Ox, cow, and horse hides in the hair, whether wet or dry, each - - -	0	0	0½
Screws of ox and cow, or other hides, per ton - - - - - -	0	4	0
Potters clay and fire clay, and dung, per ton - - - - - -	0	0	4
Coopers staves, five per cent. of the value, as hitherto in use to be ascertained within the harbour.			

CHAPTER

CHAPTER III.

CONTENTS.

[TOWN-HOUSE, PRISON, AND MASON-LODGE—CROSS AND EXCHANGE—POOR'S HOSPITAL—MARISCHAL COLLEGE—GRAMMAR SCHOOL—GORDON'S HOSPITAL—INFIRMARY—LUNATIC ASYLUM—MITCHELL'S HOSPITAL—CHARITIES—AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.]

* * * *

HAVING concisely stated the different acts for the improvement of the city of Aberdeen, it may be proper, in this place, to take notice of the principal buildings erected, either for public use, or for the purposes of humanity, with a brief view of the nature of the charitable institutions.

Town-House, Prison, and Mason-Lodge.—These form one building, situated on the west side of Castle-street. The town-house is the west wing; the mason-lodge, the east; and an old square tower in the centre, contains the prisons. The fronts of the wings are

are uniform. The battlement of the tower is fifty feet above the street, and an elegant spire rises nearly seventy feet more, which is covered with lead, and ornamented. The weathercock is exactly 120 feet above the level of the street*. The ground-flat of the town-house is let for shops. In the first storey there is a large room, where the magistrates and council hold their meetings, and also the clerks' chamber; and adjoining to the tower, there is another room, where one of the bailies sits to try petty differences, and here also, the justiciary-court is held twice a-year. In the second storey, is the town-hall, which is a well proportioned room, forty-six feet eight inches long, twenty-nine feet broad, and eighteen feet high in the roof. In the garret-storey is the armoury of the town, containing three to four hundred muskets. In this place, is deposited the flag-staff of the colours which the town's men displayed at the battle of Harlaw in 1411, where provost Davidson was killed. The bridle and cruper of his horse, in that engagement, are also exhibited to the lovers of relicks, with a horseman's coat of mail, and the *heading* part of the Scotish guillotine, better known by the name of the *maiden*, which constitute the whole of the curious articles in the armoury of Aberdeen.

The town-records, and the clerk's registers, are kept in a small but neat room above the gateway, in the west wing of the building†.

The

* Douglas's Description, p. 94.

† Every thing in this office is arranged in the most distinct manner.

The mason-lodge is occupied as a tavern, or hotel, and is presently possessed by Mr. Cleugh, who keeps it in a stile of elegance exceeded by none in the kingdom: at the same time, his charges for entertainment are as moderate as anywhere else in Scotland.

The prisons in the square tower, are wretched vaults. The best apartment, called the "Burgher's Room," is only thirteen feet and a half by eleven, and it frequently contains eight or ten unfortunate men. It is a heavy reproach to the inhabitants of this city that they have not long ago built decent places for the accommodation of those of their fellow men who have the misfortune to be deprived of their liberty, especially when they have expended so much money in works of ornament and grandeur. The feelings of humanity ought to precede the passion of vanity, and utility is of more importance than shew or splendour. —It is, however, in agitation to remove this grievance by the erection of new prisons, which will no doubt be built and fitted up in a manner corresponding to the other great improvements which have taken place in Aberdeen.

Cross and Exchange.—These are situated opposite to the town-house. "The first is a sexagon stone "building,

manner. The different sorts of deeds are lodged in separate presses, which are locked; and any man, with the assistance of the key, unless he were blind, can have no difficulty in finding any paper he may want, as the presses are distinguished by the appropriate names of their contents, which are all rightly spelled, and in legible characters.

" building, twenty-one yards in circumference at top, " and seventeen feet high in the walls, which project " a little for about four feet downwards. Under this " circular projection, the wall has mock arches and " pilasters, from which rise a row of handsome Ionic " columns, on an Attic base*." It is arched at the top three feet nine inches lower than the side walls. From the centre springs a Corinthian column twelve feet six inches high, which has an unicorn-rampant at top†. John Montgomery, a country mason, was the architect of this work, which he built in the year 1686, and for which he received a hundred pounds sterling, free of carriages‡. This erection is neither useful nor ornamental.

The exchange is a pavement of granite, squared and smoothed, eighty-four feet in length, and fifty-seven in breadth, raised two steps above the street, and terminated on the east by the cross§. This piece of pavement was laid by order of the magistrates, in the year 1751; and it was formerly the general place of resort for the gentlemen of the town; but it has long ceased to be a rendezvous for the genteeler people, and is now principally occupied by sailors and soldiers‖.

Aberdeen

* Douglas, p. 93. † Ibid.

‡ Ibid. p. 94. § Ibid.

‖ The fashionable resort now, is the pavement on the east extremity of the left side of Union-street, where the gentlemen of the town assemble for conversation, and have also the opportunity of reading the titles of new publications in the shop of a bookseller.

Aberdeen Bank.—This is a very handsome building, from a plan by Mr. James Burn, architect in Haddington, and was erected about twelve years ago. It is situated on the south side of Castle-street, opposite to the cross.

Record Office.—At the east extremity of the street is the register office, which was erected by subscription. It is a plain building, and although convenient enough for the purpose for which it was intended, it possesses nothing ornamental to recommend it to the notice of the stranger.

Poor's Hospital.—"Behind the town-house there is a large building appropriated for the reception of the aged poor, in which also many destitute children are maintained and educated." This excellent institution is supported by funds allocated by the town-council and church-session, by voluntary donations, and quarterly collections at the doors of the churches and meeting-houses.

Marischal College—is situated on the east side of Broad-street, with a large area before it. It consists of a principal building, and two wings at right angles. It was partly built in the former century, and partly in the last. The new building forms the east wing, and on the ground-floor has the private schools for the several classes, except the Greek class, which meets in the west wing. The two upper storeys are occupied as dwelling-houses, by the two senior professors. The ground-

ground-floor of the centre part of the building, is the public school; and on the first floor is the common hall, seventy-nine feet long, twenty-two broad, and fourteen feet high in the roof. Above this hall is the public library, which contains a great collection of books, arranged according to the subjects of which they treat. In the west end of the building are the common stair-case, the lobby to the hall, the apartment where the theological class is taught, and lodgings for one of the professors.

Grammar School.—This useful seminary is situated in "School-hill," west from St. Nicholas' church. It is a neat modern building, of one storey, forming three sides of a square, with an inclosed area. The school is under the direction of a rector, and three assistant teachers. The fees paid by scholars are seven shillings and sixpence per quarter; and the number of boys generally attending this school amount to two hundred and fifty, who are divided into five classes. The teacher who begins the first class carries them on for three years, when they enter the fourth class, which, with the fifth, is under the immediate tuition of the rector. All the gentlemen are excellent teachers, and to the honour of one of the masters*, a hundred boys entered to his class when he opened it last autumn.

There are large endowments for the support of the teachers of this seminary; but by some means or other, they have not been able to obtain possession of them: and their salaries are trifling, or, at any rate, far

* Mr. Nicol.

far from being a sufficient remuneration for the trouble they bestow, or an adequate compensation for the value of the instruction they communicate.

The following information is all that the author has had it in his power to collect, relative to the extent and application of the endowments which have been made to this seminary.

About the year 1614, Dr. Cargil *mortified* to the grammar-school of Aberdeen, 1000 merks. Dr. Patrick Dun also mortified 500 merks for the support of a doctor in the school. But this gentleman bestowed a munificent grant, and on the 16th April, 1634, mortified the lands of *Ferry-hill*, for the maintenance "alenarly" of four masters, appointing the yearly rent to be laid out on interest, until it should accumulate to such a sum as would purchase land of the annual value of 600 merks; and the magistrates were nominated trustees for the management of this fund after his demise.

Accordingly, Dr. Dun's executors, 15th January, 1653, delivered to the magistrates the writs relative to Ferry-hill, and also a bond for 1000 merks, which, with that year's rent of Ferry-hill, made, with interest at six per cent., 1660 merks; so that the magistrates had now received for the benefit of the grammar-school, in all 3160 merks, exclusive of the lands of Ferry-hill.

In the year 1666, the magistrates declared the mortification to have *accresced* to the sum required by the deed for accomplishing Dr. Dun's intentions, that is to say, to have amounted to as much as would purchase

lands, producing 600 merks annually. They did not, however, at that time, invest it in landed property, but lent out the money chiefly to the members of the corporation, such as provost Gray, P. Petrie of Portlethen, bailies Alexander, Robert and George Melvill, and J. Anderson, who all became insolvent. But there still remained, in 1666, of money lent on interest 7054½ merks, according to a statement made up at Michaelmas that year, and 3442 merks in the hands of the master of mortifications, not bearing interest; so that the fund still amounted to 10,496½ merks.

In the year 1677, the magistrates bought the lands of Gilcomston for L.17,666: 13: 4 Scots, or L.1472 4s. 5d. sterling; and the funds belonging to the masters of the grammar-school were invested in this purchase, in terms of Dr. Dun's mortification, as declared by act of council, dated the 31st July, 1678.

It appears that the funds of some other mortifications had been added to Dr. Dun's, to enable the magistrates to purchase the lands of Gilcomston, and the disposition was granted to the master of mortifications; but the magistrates wished to make a transfer from him to the town's treasurer, that the property might be vested in the corporation. It was therefore enacted by the council, 28th May, 1679, that the disposition of the lands of Gilcomston should be in the treasurer's name for the town's behoof; that the disposition granted by *Pitfoddles* (from whom the lands were bought) to the master of mortifications, should be *cancelled,* and one made out in favour of the town's treasurer, he giving security

security for the sums advanced by the master of mortifications.

It would not be easy at this distance of time to discover the real motives which induced the magistrates to order this transference; but it is presumable, that the lands of Gilcomston had been thought an advantageous bargain, and that it would be as well the profit should go into the town's treasury as into the pockets of the masters of the grammar-school. By this transaction, however, Dr. Dun's confidence was abused, and the masters were the sufferers.

The lands of Ferry-hill were held in lease from the year 1630 to 1750, at the annual rent of 600 merks; but the magistrates bought up the lease for an annuity to the tenant of L.60 sterling, during his life, which was paid only for one or two years. Previously to the year 1754, the lands of Ferry-hill were all feued out at L.164 sterling annually, besides a *grassum*, or purchase-price, amounting to L.977 sterling. At this time, the town's treasurer was owing, by bond, to the mortification, L.5128 Scots, or L.427 : 7 : 2¼ sterling.

The account, therefore, at this time, between the masters of the school, and the magistrates, seems to have stood thus, viz. L.1404 : 7 : 2 sterling, in the treasurer's hands, which at five per cent. produced annually L.70 4s. To this must be added, the feu-duty of Ferry-hill, L.164 sterling, making in all L.234 4s. sterling yearly, to which the masters were justly entitled.

About the year 1753, the masters of the grammar-school applied to the magistrates for an augmentation of their salaries, by petition, on which a deliverance

was given to the following effect: "The council hav-
" ing again considered the petition of the masters of
" the grammar-school, agree, that the head master
" shall be augmented 400 merks, and each of the
" under masters 200 merks, which sums shall be in
" full of all they *can* or *ever* shall ask of salary during
" their incumbency." As this offer was not agreeable to the masters, they renewed their petitions, when it was finally settled between them and the magistrates, that the matter should be referred to arbiters. Accordingly a decreet-arbitral was pronounced as follows:
" We, &c. having, according to the power given us
" by said submission, met with the parties submitters,
" and having heard, seen, and considered, the claim
" made by the said masters for an augmentation of
" their salaries, and likewise the answer made to the
" foresaid claim, with Dr. Dun's deed of mortification,
" with the claim made by the treasurer of Aberdeen
" for monies advanced by former treasurers for ma-
" king the doctor's salaries, when the mortification
" could not bear the same, &c.—do, in one voice,
" pronounce our decreet-arbitral, in manner follow-
" ing:

" We find, that from and after the death of William
" Moir, the masters are entitled to L.1968 Scots, or
" L.164 sterling, which sum we find to be the free
" feu-duties of Ferry-hill yearly, in full of all they
" can lay claim to during their incumbencies.

" Item: In regard that for many years past, the
" treasurers in Aberdeen have been obliged to pay to
" the doctors of said school, part of their salaries, be-

" cause

" cause the mortification was not in a condition to an-
" swer the same: therefore, in recompense for the
" same, we ordain the bond granted by the treasurer
" for L.5128 Scots (L.427 : 7 : 2½ sterling), to be *can-*
" *celled* and *extinguished.*

" Item: We find, that the hail other funds be-
" longing to the mortification, ought to be reserved
" by the magistrates, as patrons, to be by them ap-
" plied to the *building a convenient school-house*, and for
" a fund for supporting the same in the first place, and
" afterwards, for defraying the expences of manage-
" ment, and making up to the masters *deficiencies of*
" *said feu-duties.*

" Item: We find, that when any casualties happen
" by entry of vassals, either as heirs, or singular suc-
" cessors, these ought to be applied by the magistrates
" for indemnifying them for *any pre-advances* of the
" said masters additional salaries, or otherwise.—And
" this we declare to be our decreet-arbitral."

It evidently appears from the whole of the above statement, that Dr. Dun's intentions had not been fulfilled by the magistrates, and that his mortification had been improperly applied. When the lands of Gilcomston were purchased by Dr. Dun's money, and the disposition taken in the name of the master of mortifications, these lands became the property of the doctors of the school, in terms of Dr. Dun's deed of settlement, and were therefore inalienable. It was highly improper, if not unwarrantable, to assign the lands of Gilcomston to the treasurer of the town, and thus to constitute the mortification only a personal debt against

the corporation. It was a direct infringement of the deed, and it also deprived the masters of any advantage of the rise of landed property.

The arbiters seem to have established a new rule for the application of the funds, and to have taken no notice of the unfair transference of Gilcomston, the increased value of which, since the year 1679, ought to have been stated in opposition to the magistrates' claims for advances, which were partly made previously to the existence of the mortification.

As a corporation never dies, and Dr. Dun's settlement still remains in full force, the masters of the grammar-school, in justice, and probably, in law, may claim the lands of Gilcomston as a matter of right. At any rate, there can be no doubt that they are entitled to the full proceeds of the funds without deduction, as the deed expressly declares the mortification to be for the *maintenance* of the four masters.

Dr. Dun was a native of Aberdeen, and principal of Marischal College. The deed of conveyance is entitled, "Mortification, Doctour Patrick Dune, of the "lands of Ferriehill to the toune of Aberdeine, for "mantenance of four masters to ther grammar-school, "16th Aprill, 1634." On this day, the doctor appeared before the provost, bailies, and council of the borough, and gave into their hands a copy of his deed of mortification, extracted from the records of the lords of session, in which it had been registered on the 18th July, 1633. He requested that it might be recorded in the town's books, "therein to remain, *ad futuram rei memo-*
"*riam*;" and it was accepted accordingly, with expres-

sions

sions of thanks by the magistrates and council. In such deeds, there are always specific regulations laid down for the management and application of the fund, which become binding with all the force of an entail, or, in other words, the obligations must be strictly fulfilled.

In this deed, the conditions are particularly narrated, and the application of the fund is distinctly declared, so that no man of common sense could mistake its meaning.—" And now," says Dr. Dun, " becaus I " ame fully resolved anent the *forme* and *manner* of the " mortifying of the saids lands and teinds," meaning Ferriehill, " and to what *particular use* the samen " shall be mortified and destinat; therefore I, by thir " presents declare, and mak manifest and knowne my " will thereanent, to be *for maintenance of four mais-* " *ters* within the grammar-school of the said burgh of " Aberdeen, perpetuallie in all time cumeing, in form, " substance, and effect, after-following, and upon the " conditions, provisions, and limitations underwritten, " and *no otherwise**."

The purpose of this mortification is also farther declared by the following passage, viz. " To the honour " of ALMIGHTY GOD, and for the benefit of kirk and " commonwealth, wit ye me to have freely given, " granted, destinat, and perpetuallie mortified, to the " provost, bailies, council, and communitie thereof, in " all time cuming, and to their successors, provost, " bailies, council, and communitie, for *maintenance of* " *the said four masters of the grammar-school,* in man-

" ner

* Printed copy by A. Imlay & Co. printers, Aberdeen, p. 3.

" ner, and upon the conditions underwritten, *allenarly,*
" *and no otherwise:* All and haill, the foresaid townes
" and lands of Ferriehill, with," &c. &c. &c.*; which
are accordingly conveyed to the " provost, bailies,
" and councill of the said burgh for ever, to the use,
" and for mantenance and entertainment of four mas-
" ters within the grammar-school of the said burgh of
" Aberdeine, perpetuallie, in all time cumeing, pro-
" portionallie amongst them, *with the conditions, pro-*
" *visions, and limitations, as is after mentioned, and no*
" *otherways,*" viz. " I ordayne the yeirlie duetie of
" these lands, milne, and others, to be uplifted and
" laid upon bank *ay and whill the same grow and accresce*
" *to such ane sume of money as may buy and conquiest so*
" *meikle lands, well holden, and commodiously lying,* as
" will render and pay six hundreth merkes, Scotis
" money, of yeirlie frie rent, making in all, with the
" present rent of the saids lands and milne of Ferrie-
" hill, the soume of twelve hundred merkes yierlie."

The magistrates of Aberdeen did accordingly lay out the money at interest, until it *accresced* to 12,000 merks, which they declared to be the case on the 14th July, 1666; and they applied it, to the extent of 10,000 merks, to the purchase of the lands of Gilcomstone: for, in an act of council, dated the 31st July, 1678, relative to the debts of the corporation, it is said, " As also the burgh is resting (owing) of principal
" sum to Dr. Dun's mortification, L.1866: 13: 4,
" which behoved to be paid at Whitsunday: *For con-*
" *form*

* Printed Copy, p. 4.

" *form to the mortification, there was settled upon land,* " 10,000 *merks for the use of the undermasters*" [it should have been masters], " *of the grammar-school, and that* " *sum was ane part of the price of the land, as said is.*"

In so far, the magistrates acted according to the conditions of Dr. Dun's settlement; that is to say, they invested 10,000 merks in land, to which the master of mortifications obtained a disposition from the seller; and the doctors of the grammar-school became virtually annuitants of a corresponding proportion of the lands of Gilcomston, which were the property purchased; and they could not legally, or, in justice, be deprived of their right. The transference of their part of the lands to the town-treasurer, which took place in 1679, was therefore an infringement of the conditions of Dr. Dun's mortification, and a direct breach of a deed properly constituted by a royal charter of confirmation, and all the formalities of law.

The decreet-arbitral pronounced by Messrs. Turner, the sheriff-clerk, and Thomson, the town's consultor, is completely ridiculous, and also a violation of the deed of settlement, because they establish a mode of disposing of the fund altogether unauthorised. They were bound by the terms of the deed, and no other; but there is not a word in it that implies any application different from the *maintenance* of the four masters. The mortification was intended, and it is sufficiently declared to be, *salaries to the teachers*, no part of which could be expended in " *building a con-* " *venient school-house,*" or to any other purpose, than merely to maintain the four masters, who are strictly prohibited

prohibited from taking higher fees than " thretteine " schillings four pennies, Scots money," quarterly, from each scholar, " unless he be the son of a marquis, " earl, viscount, lord, or baron*."

If this mortification had been managed in a proper manner, or rather, if it had not been grossly abused, the salaries of the teachers might have amounted to something so very considerable, perhaps, to several hundred pounds to each, that the means of education would have been accessible to the lower classes of the town and neighbourhood of Aberdeen. But it is expressly declared, that " whatsomever scholar, comeing " to the grammar-school, and bringing with him ane " testimonial, subscribed be honest and famous men, " declaring his povertie, or the povertie of his parents, " *shall be teached gratis.*" Those of the name of Dun are also entitled to be taught gratis, " whatsomever " rank or condition they be;" and likewise, " the " whole tennents sones of the saids lands of Ferrie- " hill, *and haill remanent lands to be conqueist for the* " *use foresaid*, to be teached gratis perpetuallie in all " tyme comeing†."

The mismanagement of Dr. Dun's mortification, therefore, has not only affected the interest of the four masters, but it has deeply injured that of thousands, who might have attended this seminary in virtue of the charitable intentions of the donor. The diffusion of education among the lower ranks of society is of the greatest national importance. The enlargement of knowledge,

* Printed Copy, p. 7. † P. 7, 8.

knowledge, and the consequent expansion of intellect, will ever make men wiser and better. The great concern of mankind is the *means* of securing their happiness in this world, and in that which is to come; and the duties we have to perform, must be understood before they can be practised. Education enables us to discover the extent of our obligations, as they are contained in the theory of moral science, of which we acquire a knowledge by reading, studying, and reflecting. The difference between the unlettered savage, and the man of education, is, that the one has nothing to guide him, but his own limited experience; while the other derives information from the experience of preceding generations, and thus amasses a stock of knowledge that can be immediately applied to every incident in human life.

The advantage of education to every member of the society, requires no illustration; but it is of more importance to the poor man than to the rich, as in the career of life, it is necessary for him to counterbalance the influence of the opulent by knowledge, which conveys power. In a national point of view, it is also of the utmost consequence to educate the lower classes of the community, as they will then be qualified for a greater number of employments—to the increase of the comforts and conveniencies of the whole society; and frequently, extraordinary talents have been rescued from oblivion by means of education, which certainly fixes in the mind many valuable principles of religion, morals, and politics.

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The injury sustained by the public, and particularly by the citizens of Aberdeen, from the mismanagement of Dr. Dun's mortification, is sufficiently apparent; and the turpitude of the crime cannot be palliated by any plea of ignorance, as, independently of the strict and explicit terms of the deed, the moral obligation to do justice, both to the masters and to the public, ought to have dictated better sentiments. The disgrace attachable to those who abused this valuable institution, should be a beacon to warn the present, and all future managers of benevolent donations from the danger that accompanies their misapplication, which will certainly be attended by the severest reprehension—the loss of character—and every thing that a good man may deem valuable.

Gordon's Hospital.—This building is situated a little to the west of the grammar-school, on ground formerly belonging to the White Friars. It stands at the extremity of a large garden, and is an elegant house of three storeys, with pediments projecting in front, and on each end. From the centre of the roof springs a handsome spire, which is covered with lead. A white marble statue of the founder is placed above the entry. The whole building is eighty-six feet long, and thirty-three feet nine inches wide, over walls, and was finished in the year 1736 or 7.

Robert Gordon, merchant in Aberdeen, was the founder of this valuable institution, the object of which is, to maintain and educate indigent boys, and it was

opened

opened for that purpose in the year 1750. The deed of settlement is dated the 13th of December, 1729, by which the founder dispones L.10,000 sterling, or such a sum as his estate shall produce, "in favours of the "provost, bailies, and the remanent members of the "town-council of the burgh of Aberdeen, and the "four ministers of the gospel of the old and new "churches, and their successors, in trust, for the uses, "ends, and purposes, after mentioned, conform to, "and in the terms of the rules and statutes under-"written." The magistrates and council, with the four ministers, were also appointed sole executors, for the purpose of uplifting the funds, and applying them to the erection and maintenance of the institution, to be called ROBERT GORDON'S HOSPITAL.

The eligibility of claimants for admission is distinctly detailed in the deed of settlement; but seeing the "intention of this foundation is only to relieve the "poor," their indigent circumstances must be fully established. The natural partiality, however, of the founder to his own name and relations, induced him to specify a preference as to admission, regulated by certain circumstances. Accordingly, boys are entitled to be received into this hospital in the following order.

"1st, Sons or grandsons of decayed burgesses of "guild of Aberdeen, who are relations of the morti-"fier, of the surname of *Gordon*."

"2d, Sons or grandsons of decayed burgesses of "guild of Aberdeen, who are relations of the morti-"fier, of the surname of *Menzies*."

" 3d, Sons or grandsons of any other decayed bur-
" gesses of guild of Aberdeen, of the surname of
" *Gordon.*"

" 4th, Sons or grandsons of any other decayed bur-
" gesses of guild of Aberdeen, of the surname of
" *Menzies.*"

" 5th, Sons or grandsons of decayed burgesses of
" guild of Aberdeen, who are relations of the morti-
" fier, of any other surname."

" 6th, Sons or grandsons of any other decayed bur-
" gesses of guild, of whatever surname."

" 7th, Sons or grandsons of decaycd tradesmen,
" burgesses of Aberdeen, being of the seven incorpo-
" rated trades, among which are included the but-
" chers: persons of the surname of *Gordon* and *Men-*
" *zies,* and the relations of the mortifier in this rank
" having preference to others, in the same order as
" observed in that of burgesses of guild."

" 8th, Sons and grandsons of litsters and barbers in
" Aberdeen, boys of the surname of *Gordon* and *Men-*
" *zies,* and relations of the mortifier having preference
" in this rank as above."

" 9th, The sons or grandsons of residenters in Aber-
" deen, in general, with preference as above."

" It being expressly declared, that the relations of
" the mortifier, whether of the surname of *Gordon* or
" *Menzies,* or of any other surname, are not entitled
" to be elected into the hospital, unless they be sons
" or grandsons of burgesses of guild of Aberdeen, or
" tradesmen burgesses of it: and ought not to be
" elected while there are petitions from sons or grand-
" sons

" sons of burgesses of guild, or tradesmen burgesses " of Aberdeen."

" The boys claiming to be elected, must not be un- " der nine years of age, nor above twelve ;" and they may remain until they be fourteen, fifteen, or sixteen years old. The boys are uniformly dressed, and the greatest attention is paid to their clothing, cleanliness, and diet. The plan of instruction comprehends reading, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, geometry, the French language, drawing, and vocal music. The internal œconomy of the house, as well as the instruction of the youth, is under the immediate superintendence of the master, who directs the teachers, and sees that they perform their duty.

The regulations by which this valuable institution is guarded, are various, but judicious; and throughout, they breathe a spirit of philanthropy that strongly indicates the humane and amiable disposition of the founder. When the boys have remained the limited time in the hospital, they are apprenticed to merchandizing, or to any trade their genius or inclination may lead them to embrace; and the apprentice-fee of L.8 6s. 8d. sterling, is paid for them. If they conduct themselves with propriety during their apprenticeship, they are allowed L.5 sterling each, to enable them to commence business. If any boy, however, shall prefer going abroad, to staying at home, he is allowed L.10 sterling for fitting him out. By an agreement with the principal and professors of Marischal College, the president and governors of the hospital are entitled to recommend annually four boys, who shall be al-

lowed to attend the mathematical and natural philosophy classes taught in the university, and accordingly four are annually recommended.

At the commencement of this institution, the funds were only in a situation to maintain twenty-six boys; but by prudent management, they have been so far improved, that the number at present in the hospital, is seventy-eight: and altogether, seven hundred and twenty indigent children have been maintained and educated. Six hundred of these have been apprenticed to merchants or handicraftsmen, and many of them have become respectable and opulent. It is a fundamental law of the institution, that those boys who shall acquire, or succeed to a stock equal to 4000 merks, shall pay the whole expense that has been bestowed upon them; yet, except in one or two instances, nothing has been obtained from the ungrateful sons of this charity, although many of them have realized ample fortunes.

It will certainly surprize the reader, when he is informed that only two donations have been received from those who have reaped the benefit of the institution. One, from a man who had acquired a great fortune,—of the paltry amount of L.100 sterling; and the other—a trifle. The ingratitude of mankind is a vulgar topic, but it has been too strongly exemplified by those who have been the objects of this charity.

A man died lately, possessed of L.80,000 sterling, who had been clothed, fed, and had received his education in this hospital. He was reminded of his obligations to the institution, during his life-time, but he made

made no reply: and at his death, he forgot even what he justly owed; and, to this moment, the expense bestowed upon him, is unpaid. He owed all he possessed of education to this institution: and if he had not been sheltered within its walls, he might have been, perhaps, a "poor wandering beggar boy," and never have reached any rank in society above that of a day-labourer.

The amiable founder of this institution, ordered that the names of those who contributed to it, should be honourably recorded in the books, "and also put up "in gilded letters upon a wall within it." But he should likewise have added, that the names of those who had enjoyed its benefits, and forgot to make a suitable return, should be enrolled on a tablet of INFAMY, as a beacon to warn the youth within its walls, against the crime of ingratitude*.

Many ridiculous stories have been handed down concerning Mr. Gordon's private character, which are extremely improbable, and quite unnatural. We know what he has done for the good of posterity; and if, to accomplish a noble act of beneficence, he should have denied himself those enjoyments of life to which he was so well entitled, it must place him still higher in the scale of philanthropy. He was nearly connected with the distinguished families of Straloch and Pitfoddles, and possessed both the education and manners of

* If those who could have afforded it, had paid the expense they cost this institution, four times the number of boys might have been clothed, fed, and educated; so that their neglect is an injury to the public, as well as a disgrace to themselves.

a gentleman. His memory lives in the hearts of all honest men: and he has consecrated a monument to the good of mankind, that will perpetuate his name and his humanity through after ages.

Infirmary.—The foundation-stone of this valuable institution was laid on the first day of January, in the year 1740.

In the minutes of the infirmary-records, it is stated, that "the magistrates, council, and principal inhabi-" tants, taking into their consideration the miserable " circumstances their fellow-creatures are reduced to, " by bodily distempers; and that, by want of proper " care from physicians, they are rendered altogether " useless, and consequently, burthensome to society; " and being informed that, to remedy this great evil, " infirmaries have been lately built in the cities of " Edinburgh and Glasgow, by public contributions " from the inhabitants, &c. 'into which all proper " objects are received, and regularly attended by " physicians:'"—The magistrates called a meeting in the town-house, of the principal inhabitants, and submitted to them the proposal for the erection of the infirmary of Aberdeen, which they immediately embraced. They subscribed liberally, and their charity was active; for they solicited assistance from their friends in all corners of the world, and happily they were able to accomplish their humane and benevolent intentions.

The expenditure of the infirmary is partly provided from the interest of such donations and contributions

as

as have, from time to time, been given by well-disposed individuals and societies, and which have been converted into a permanent stock. But this fund being very inadequate to the support of an institution becoming rapidly and unavoidably much more expensive in its annual disbursements, its chief source of revenue arises from collections at all public places of worship in the synod of Aberdeen, and at the parish churches in the adjoining counties, with occasional donations and legacies. Government also grants a sum annually, sufficient for keeping open a military ward on a very limited scale; and a small revenue arises from a payment of four guineas by each student of medicine, who attends the hospital during his apprenticeship.

In the year 1773, the managers of the infirmary were constituted a body-corporate by royal charter. The provost of Aberdeen—the four bailies—the dean of guild, and treasurer—the last acting provost—the town-clerk, and convener of trades—the professor of medicine in Marischal College—and the moderator of the synod of Aberdeen, all for the time being—with the directors for life, so constituted, in consequence of a legacy or donation of fifty pounds each; and fourteen persons to be elected annually—are appointed and established one body corporate and politic for ever, under the name and title of the *President and Managers of the Infirmary of Aberdeen.* The charter appoints an annual general meeting on the first Monday of December, of the president, managers, and contributors, for the election of fourteen additional managers; and

and provides, that six, at least, of the fourteen managers so to be elected, shall be chosen and taken from the following professions and societies within the city; viz. one of the ministers of Aberdeen of the established church; one of the managers of the monies collected for pious uses at St. Paul's chapel, in the city of Aberdeen; two of the physicians residing in Aberdeen; one of the society of shipmasters there; and (for completing the number of six), one of the present or preceding deacons of any of the incorporate trades within the city. It provides also, that four, at least, of the said fourteen managers, shall, at every annual election, be changed and removed. The charter further nominates, the provost of Aberdeen, and, in his absence, the magistrate next in rank to him, to be the president of the corporation, and to have a casting vote. It appoints four general quarterly courts to be held on the third Monday of the months of March, June, September, and December, with the power of adjournment; and the general courts are authorised to appoint committees of their number, for the more immediate direction of the affairs of the infirmary. It empowers them to nominate a treasurer, officers, servants, and other persons, necessary to be employed in the government, and for carrying on the affairs and business of the said incorporation; and also grants them the power to make such by-laws, statutes, rules, and ordinances, as they, or the majority of them, being present, shall judge proper and necessary, for the better government and direction of the infirmary.

Those at present engaged in conducting the inter-

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nal business of the infirmary are, two physicians; a chaplain; one person executing the duties of treasurer and clerk; a matron, or housekeeper; five nurses, besides night nurses, according to circumstances; four female servants, and two porters. A gentleman attends daily to administer electricity to patients; and altogether, this establishment is managed in a manner that does great credit to all concerned in the direction of its affairs.

The following abstract of the number of patients who have been received into, and dismissed from the infirmary, betwixt 1st of January 1810, and 1st of January 1811, will shew the extent of the utility of this humane institution.

1810.

Jan. 1.—Patients remaining in the hospital		67
Admitted, betwixt 1st of January, 1810, and 1st of January, 1811		736—803
Of whom have been cured perfectly - - - - -		479
Recovered, not cured perfectly -		115
Improper, dismissed at their own desire, and deserted - -		83
Dead - - - - -		44

1811.

Jan. 1.—Patients remaining in the hospital	82—803

Note.—Besides the above patients admitted into the hospital, one thousand and ninety-seven have had the benefit of advice and medicines, as out-patients.

It will be seen by the preceding account of the infirmary, that a great part of its revenue is casual, and depends

depends upon the liberality of charitable people. One great source of income arises from the collections of the different churches within the range of its influence. And as it is apparent, that the extent of the usefulness of this institution, must be limited by the amount of its revenue, the importance of augmenting these collections, must be evident: but it is to be lamented, that so little exertion is generally made for that purpose. The clergy have it much in their power to benefit this charity, which is in fact benefiting their own parishioners; and if they were to exert themselves, they could have no difficulty in doubling the annual collections. Were they to deliver a discourse adapted to the subject, enforcing by argument and illustration, the importance of contributing largely to this establishment, which is calculated to relieve the pains of the afflicted, by restoring to health those who "languish on the bed of sickness," they would certainly arouse the benevolent feelings of their hearers.

The collections in country churches do not in general exceed one penny sterling, for each person, or, at most, three halfpennies annually, which is a sum so very insignificant, that it is wonderful the clergy are not ashamed to transmit it to the treasurer of the hospital. One clergyman, however, (of the author's acquaintance), much to his credit, adopted a plan which tripled his collection. Instead of gathering the money at the church-door, which is the usual method, he sent the elders to every house in his parish, who wrote down the names of the people, and the amount they gave. This scheme was a direct appeal to the charity

of

of his parishioners, and perhaps in some degree affected their vanity; for the paper was a record, and no one was willing to be thought less benevolent than his neighbour: and accordingly, they contributed three times the sum that was usually collected by the old method. This was certainly doing much good with very little trouble; and it is sincerely to be wished, that his brethren of the church would everywhere imitate the example, or, at any rate, take some effectual plan to promote the beneficent object of this highly valuable institution.

Lunatic Hospital.—Previously to the year 1800, the care of insane persons devolved on the managers of the infirmary, in which there were several ground-cells. But, convinced of the injury which the other patients suffered, by being under the same roof with lunatics, the managers were led to turn their thoughts to an institution entirely adapted to this humane purpose, and an hospital was accordiugly erected.

The fund with which the ground was purchased, and the buildings erected, is stated at something more than three thousand pounds, and was raised by voluntary contributions solely from the citizens of Aberdeen. The expenditure is still partly defrayed from the same source; but the revenue of the institution chiefly arises from payments by the patients: fifteen pounds sterling for each, being the lowest; twenty-five pounds, the second rate of charge; and thirty, the highest: with the exception of those whose circumstances admit of better payment. In September,

1810,

1810, there were ten patients on charity; twenty, at the rate of fifteen pounds; six, at twenty pounds; and three, at twenty-five pounds annually.

By the original charter, the magistrates are appointed managers, along with the professor of medicine in the university; other official persons from the different societies of Aberdeen; and the donors to the hospital. By a regulation of the institution, an annual report of the number of patients, and state of the asylum, is presented to the sheriff and magistrates. The medical department is under the care of Doctors Moir and Dyce, who, much to their honour, gratuitously afford their attendance.

There are printed regulations for diet, bedding, &c.; and the internal management of the hospital is committed to one principal keeper; two assistants; a housekeeper; and four female servants. The convalescent male patients are employed in gardening, and the females in spinning flax, or in house-service.

The extent of the accommodation of this asylum is limited to fifty patients; but it can be easily increased: and in that respect, the managers must be guided by the amount of the funds, of which an account is kept by the treasurer, who is accountable for all receipts and disbursements.

The total number of patients admitted into the hospital, since its establishment, down to the 1st May, 1810, is one hundred and sixty, according to the following statement, viz.

| | | |

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Dismissed, as cured -	14	8	22
In a convalescent state	19	15	34
At the desire of their friends	18	19	37
Died - - - -	15	13	28
Remaining, on the 1st May, 1810 - - -	18	21	39
Total....	84	76	160

EXPENCE of supporting the hospital for one year, from the 1st May, 1809, to the 1st May, 1810, according to the hospital books; the average number of patients being thirty-five one-sixth, viz.

Provisions - - -	£298	12	9
Fire - - - -	23	6	10
Light - - -	2	12	0
Washing - - -	10	5	0
Incidents—Insurance, stationary, and printing - -	14	1	1½
Medicines - - -	0	11	10½
Repairs of buildings -	36	7	3½
Interest of £3000 sterling, being the charge on the houses and ground	150	0	0
Salaries for governor and housekeeper - - - £50	0	0	
——Keeper's assistants 40	0	4	
	90	0	4
Carried forward,	L.623	16	10¼

Brought forward,	623	16	10½
Salaries for three women servants - - -	15	0	0
——Porter - - -	2	2	0
——Treasurer - - -	20	0	0
	37	2	0
	L.660	18	10½

Average charge on each patient, for provisions only - - - - -	8	10	0
Do. do. including other necessaries	13	11	0
Do. do. including repairs of houses	14	12	0
Do. do. including house-rent, &c.	18	18	9

THE following is a list of the donations and legacies, with the names of those worthy people who have contributed to this humane institution.

Donations to the Lunatic Asylum, Aberdeen.

1800—The trustees of bailie Cargill	L.1128	18	6
John Ewen, Esq. Aberdeen -	50	0	0
1801—Profits from a play - -	47	8	6
Ditto from a concert of music	32	10	3
1802—A lady - - - -	25	0	0
A lady - - - -	10	0	0
A gentleman - - -	20	0	0
Baillie Duguid - - -	10	0	0
Bailie Galen - - -	10	0	0
Sir James Durno - -	10	0	0
William Shepherd, Esq. -	21	0	0
Carried forward,	L.1364	17	3

John

Brought forward,	L.1364	17	3
1803—John Dingwall of Brucklaw, Esq.	100	0	0
Mrs. Jean Hunter, Aberdeen -	50	0	0
1804—Mrs. Mary Adam, do. - -	100	0	0
1805—Mr. Francis Peacock - -	20	0	0
1806—Profits of a play - - -	30	0	0
The Honourable the County Club, betwixt 1802 and 1806	125	0	0
The Northern Shooting Club, ditto ditto - - -	56	5	0
James Ferguson of Pitfour, Esq M. P. twice L.25 - -	50	0	0
James Farquhar of Johnston, Esq. M. P. - - -	30	0	0
The Honourable the Magistrates and Council of Aberdeen, an annual payment of L.30 for five years - - -	150	0	0
Sundries under L.10 - -	76	8	10
Subscriptions under L.10. -	166	4	6
A collection from the churches and chapels in town - -	182	15.	4
1807—The Hon. the County Club -	15	0	0
Mrs. Mary Mitchell, London -	30	0	0
Sundries, under L.10 - -	10	0	0
1808—Part profit of a play - -	10	0	0
The Shooting Club - -	10	0	0
William Fiddler, Esq. Aberdeen	20	0	0
A friend to this asylum - -	10	0	0
Carried forward,	L.2606	10	11

Brought forward,	L.2606	10	11
1808—Sundries under L.10 - -	2	2	0
1809—A friend to the asylum (John Ewen, Esq.) - - -	60	0	0
Profit of a concert - - -	36	10	0
1810—The Hon. the County Club -	15	0	0
Sundries under L.10 - -	10	10	0
	L.2730	12	11

Legacies to the Lunatic Asylum, Aberdeen.

1799—Mrs. Allardyce - - -	L.30	0	0
1800—Patrick Barron, Esq. Woodside	25	0	0
1801—Mr. John Smith, yost. merchant	100	0	0
Mr. James Farquhar, land-surveyor of customs - -	100	0	0
1802—Mr. John Cushnie, shipmaster	500	0	0
1804—Mr. Alex. Ross, yost. merchant	50	0	0
Isaac Hawkins Brown, Esq. London, L.500, of three per cent. consolidated stock - -	300	0	0
1805—Hugh Hutcheon, Esq. advocate	20	0	0
1807—Miss Ann Irvine, Aberdeen -	25	0	0
Dr. James Beattie, Marischal College - - - -	25	0	0
Mrs. Jean Jameson, Aberdeen	25	0	0
Mr. Donald Stewart, merchant, Aberdeen - - -	40	0	0
1808—William Mitchell, Esq. London	20	0	0
Mrs. Captain Gavin, Aberdeen	10	0	0
Carried forward,	L.1270	0	0

Provost

Brought forward,	L.1270	0	0
1808—Provost William Cruden, do. -	50	0	0
1809—Mrs. Jameson - - -	15	0	0
1810—William Fiddler, Esq. Aberdeen	20	0	0
	L.1355	0	0

Mitchell's Hospital.—This benevolent institution is situated in the Old Town, and was endowed by David Mitchell, Esq. of Holloway-down, in the county of Essex, who was a native of this city. The building contains separate rooms for the accommodation of five indigent widows, and the like number for maiden daughters of burgesses of Old Aberdeen, besides a public hall for their general resort. They are furnished with all the necessaries, and many of the comforts of life, and each is allowed the disposal of a little money weekly, as she shall think proper. The hospital was opened the 1st January, 1801, and is under the management of the principal and sub-principal of King's College; the provost, and oldest bailie; the convener of the trades of Old Aberdeen; and the ministers of the parish of St. Machar.

The beneficent intentions of the donor have been greatly promoted by his nephew, Alexander Mitchell, Esq. of Powis-place, London, who has made several very considerable improvements on the building, and on its internal embellishments. He has particularly attended to the comfort and happiness of the inhabitants, and has furnished them with a small library of such books as he has thought would be interesting to them; and by various acts of kindness has

shewn his anxiety to follow out the humane intentions of his late worthy uncle.

Charities.—There are many charitable funds under the management of the magistrates and council; and for the purpose of keeping them distinct, and that each may be applied agreeably to its special destination, upwards of sixty different accounts are necessarily kept open; notwithstanding that, in some instances, where the sums bequeathed, are trifling, and the purpose similar, two or three are placed under one head.

The annual payments arising from these funds, may amount to seventeen or eighteen hundred pounds sterling altogether, of which about L.100 are applied for the education of poor children; L.200 distributed in bursaries at the grammar-school, and at Marischal College; and the remainder is appropriated to relieve the poor and indigent of different descriptions.

Amongst these several charitable foundations, a few may be particularized.

Lady Drum founded a maiden hospital in 1633, for a few old unmarried women. She bestowed three thousand merks on it as an endowment, and gave three hundred merks to build a house. The house became ruinous; and the funds not being adequate to the rebuilding of it, the ground on which it stood, was feued out, and, in consequence, the revenue has been considerably improved; so that, with the interest of stocked money, it now exceeds L 60 sterling a year.

Robert Johnston, of London, bequeathed L.600 sterling, "that the poor people of *Aberdeen* may thereby "be

" be set to work at lawful trades and manufactures." This fund has been somewhat ameliorated; and the greater part of the annual rent is paid into the poor's hospital; the remainder being distributed among several people.

Mr. Ogilvie, of Jamaica, paid to the town's treasurer, L.50 sterling, for the benefit of a foundling hospital, to *accress* till it shall amount to a sum sufficient for building one; and it is now something better than L.200 sterling.

Archibald Bean, a dyer, established a charitable fund, which, although originally small, has considerably increased. It is confined to the members of the dyer society; and as they are few in number, they derive a proportional advantage from it, the benefit being inversely as the number of dyers, to the amount of the fund.

Poor's Hospital.—The funds of this institution are united to those of the kirk-session, to which the congregations of every denomination within the town contribute; and all receive benefit, as the cases of their poor may require, or the funds will admit. About 400 indigent persons receive a monthly allowance regularly, and many others are occasionally supplied. Within the walls of the hospital, *forty* poor children are maintained and educated, and, when at a proper age, they are apprenticed out to different trades.

It is highly gratifying to learn, that there are so many establishments in Aberdeen, for the purposes of humanity, and for the maintenance of the indigent

poor.

poor.—Within these few years, a society has been established under the name of the *Female Society*, which is entirely composed of a set of pious ladies, who regularly or occasionally distribute charity to indigent females. They visit the sick, and pray with them, besides bestowing pecuniary assistance, to relieve their immediate wants.—Both the motives and conduct of this society are highly creditable to its members, as their good intentions and practice comprehend religious instruction, as well as active charity.

An *Auxiliary Bible Society* has been established in Aberdeen for the purpose of promoting the great work of the *British and Foreign Bible Society* in London. The Aberdeen society is honoured by high patronage; and many well-meaning gentlemen in this city, both of the clergy and of the laity, are engaged in it. An address to the public first called their attention to this subject, and much good is expected from this, and similar institutions throughout the kingdom. Indeed, it is hinted in the address, that they may produce the most important consequences to the country, as preponderating the scale of providence in our favour, in relation to our great enemy.—" While so many " nations," says the address, " have fallen under the " cruel dominion of the conqueror and scourge of the " civilized world;—while that conqueror is animated " with destructive rancour against this country, and " has compelled so many states to join, and to assist " his hostility against us,—*is there not reason to hope* " that so much *genuine piety*, and *substantial virtue*, as

are

" are displayed by such *undertakings* and *institutions*,
" may, under the gracious protection of the Almighty
" Potentate, *prove the means of securing our independence*
" *and liberty?*" If the bible societies can, by *any means*, weaken the power of Bonaparte, it will be doing this nation the greatest service: for, contending with him has brought us to the brink of ruin; and unless some plan shall be adopted soon, either to reduce his strength, or to incline his heart to peace, it is thought by many that we shall be utterly undone.

But it has been doubted by some intelligent men, how far it is expedient, or at all necessary for us, in existing circumstances, to translate the *Scriptures* into " *Hindostanee, Bengalee, Persian, Mahratta, Malayalim,* " *Sanscrit, Chinese, Turkish, Esquimaux, Calmuck, Mo-* " *hawk,*" or into any other language, that may have emanated from the confusion of *Babel*, for the purpose of distributing them among foreign and independent nations, who are by no means desirous of our good services, and are, at the same time, perfectly satisfied with their own systems of religion. It is well known, that schemes of proselytism have seldom succeeded, from a remote period, down to the missionary expeditions to Otaheite, and the other islands of the South Seas; and it is also known, that the natives of India, and of some other countries, have obstinately resisted every attempt to convert them to Christianity.

There can be little objection, however, to the people of Britain sending as much of their property as they can conveniently spare, to other nations, in the shape of bibles; and perhaps their money is just as well, or

better,

better, expended in this way, than wasted in the explosion of gunpowder on the plains of Spain and Portugal: but there is great danger to be apprehended from that *spirit* which supports this system of "con-" verting all nations." At present, it is beyond all doubt harmless, and will be so, while it extends no farther than merely sending printed books: But have we any assurance that those feelings, as yet temperate, may not in time, and at no distant period, rise into mad enthusiasm; and are we positively certain, that *Bengalee, Esquimaux, Calmuck,* and *Mohawk* bibles, may not be followed by legions of armed men to enforce their circulation, and thus expose the world again to the horrors of the crusades.

The members of the bible societies, and particularly of that of Aberdeen, must, as yet, be acquitted of any intention of propagating Christianity by the sword; but are they aware, that it is an easy process to work up the human mind from zeal to fervour—from fervour to enthusiasm;—and have they considered, that when once the frenzy has reached to a certain point, it is much to be feared, that the war trumpet will call the votaries of fanaticism together, to persecute, perhaps, to extirpate, peaceful and inoffensive nations, because they have treated our admonitions lightly, and chuse to continue to worship God in their own manner. The progress of bigotry in this country is already alarmingly rapid, and methodism is fast supplanting the established religion, which is tottering on its foundation, through the undermining arts of enthusiastic sectaries. That bigotry, therefore, which is

so justly to be dreaded, should not be fostered, or even countenanced, by systematic arrangements founded on the same principles and views as professed by the most violent Calvinistic dissenters of the present day.

One man inflamed all Europe, and produced the crusades, so destructive to the population of the western nations; but Europe was prepared to receive the impression, as the minds of men were fanaticised, and the consequence was, that, in pursuance of a hopeless scheme, myriads perished on the plains of Asia. What has happened, may occur again; and are we certain, that the *desire* to propagate Christianity among infidel nations, although as yet temperate and rational, may not in time become warm and irritable, and finally, rise into anger: for the rage of bigotry is furious, and cannot be restrained or softened by the power of reason. As the transition from an *ardent desire* to convince, to the *actual application of force* when persuasion fails, is so easy,—it is much to be apprehended, that a peaceable system of proselytism may soon be followed by measures of coercion; and every approach, therefore, to that state of things which countenances persecution for "religion's sake," should be repressed and borne down.

Were there any circumstances existing in the present state of the Christian church, that required the particular activity of its members, it would be their bounden duty to make every suitable exertion to maintain that system which they believe to be founded on immutable truth; but the progress of infidelity is languid, and scepticism is less prevalent than previously

viously to the æra of the French revolution.—Deistical theories were merely the speculations of a few philosophical writers, who never attempted to reduce them to practice: but in every country, religious bigotry has produced the most fatal consequences. It is intolerant and persecuting, and these realms have suffered much from its merciless rage. Its *workings*, therefore, should be carefully watched: but above all, it should not be encouraged by the countenance of those well meaning, although deluded men, who constitute missionary establishments, and *foreign* bible societies.

To understand fully the nature of the missionary system, it is necessary to view it in all its bearings: but the slightest acquaintance with its manner of proceeding, must convince any man of the utter inefficacy of such schemes. The Christian church is divided into two great bodies, possessing separate and distinct characters. The first, and by far the more numerous, is the Roman Catholic, which occupies the fairest part of Europe: the second is, the Protestant, or reformed church, which possesses part of Germany, and the whole of Prussia, Denmark, Sweden, and the island of Great Britain. The catholics were early active in disseminating their doctrines in both the Indies, and in South America; and, at the point of the sword, they have succeeded in compelling many of the natives, within the range of their settlements, to observe the superstitious rites of the church of Rome. The protestants have not been so zealous in the work of conversion as the sister church, until of late years,

that

that they have been moved to make attempts in Africa and Asia, principally through the efforts of sectarians in England; and as yet, it may be said, that they have completely failed, especially in Hindostan, where they have made their chief efforts. But an irreconcileable difference subsists between the Roman Catholics and Protestants, in their doctrines, their tenets, and opinions. The first consider the protestants as beyond the reach of salvation; and as heretics, view them not more favourably than if they were Jews, or Mohammedans. The second deem the church of Rome as sunk in gross error, superstition, and idolatry, and lost to the kingdom of Christ.—While the Christian world is thus divided, and the variance of such a nature as not only to preclude their acting together, but to induce their strenuous efforts to oppose each other by mutual recriminations, which include threatenings so awful as eternal perdition, it is not to be expected, that foreign nations will listen to their admonitions, and much less, that they will adopt Christianity in preference to their own religion, which they have been taught to revere through a series of generations. A Gentoo, who may meet with a catholic missionary, and receive instruction according to the doctrines of the church of Rome, must be surprised indeed, when, next day, he is assailed by a missionary of methodism, and informed, that all he has learned, is merely error and delusion, and that the pains of hell will follow his adherence to such a system of Christianity. As he cannot determine, therefore, which is right, he will naturally, when he finds such discrepancy of opinion,

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view both with suspicion and distrust, and ultimately consider the religion of his fathers the best, to which he must retain a strong prepossession from his education and early habits. Until Christians shall be reconciled among themselves, so that they may pursue one uniform mode of instruction, they can scarcely expect the conversion of heathen nations; and to their differences, their acrimony, and the ignorance of their agents, may be fairly ascribed the little progress that Christianity has made throughout Africa and Asia. Although missionary establishments, and foreign bible societies are not exactly the same, yet they are related, and the affinity between them is so close, that they must be considered as guided by similar views and principles.

It is held forth by the *Aberdeen Auxiliary Bible Society* that their sole object shall be "to encourage a "wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures, *without* "*note or comment*," which plainly means, that the "word of truth" shall not be corrupted with the erroneous explanations of men. But can the missionaries—those living oracles of folly and nonsense—be prevented from commenting on the doctrines contained in the sacred volumes? Will they not supply the deficiency of notes, which have been generally written by men of learning and good sense, by their own illustrations, which are the effusions of ignorance and absurdity? It is quite clear, that the circulation of bibles in foreign countries must be preceded by missionaries to recommend them, and these enthusiasts will certainly, at the same time, endeavour to diffuse their

their own opinions, or rather, the particular tenets of their respective sects, which already have produced much harm in the peninsula of India; and at home, the puritanical spirit is engendering a volcano, that, as in the time of Cromwell, may overwhelm both church and throne.

But while there are so many charitable institutions in Aberdeen, calculated upon the most beneficent principles, and already reduced to practical utility, it is supposed by some, that the spare money of the citizens might be as well bestowed on such charities as the *Infirmary, Gordon's Hospital,* the *Lunatic Asylum,* and the *Poor's Hospital,* as in giving bibles to those who either will not, or cannot, read them. A society indeed has been lately established in Edinburgh, for the purpose of learning our ignorant Highlanders to read, by introducing ambulatory schools among them, in imitation of a similar institution successfully adopted in Wales. This is beginning the business in a proper manner, and is a *rational* kind of plan, that cannot fail to obtain the approbation of every person who wishes well to Scotland, and may, with propriety, be followed up by the distribution of bibles, as the Highlanders will then be in a state to study and understand "the instructions of immutable, everlasting truth and "wisdom*."

* Address, p. 2.

CHAPTER IV.

CONTENTS.

[CHURCHES—MEDICAL SOCIETY—DISPENSARIES—VACCINE INSTITUTION—FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—MASON LODGES AND MASONRY—BARRACKS—BRIDEWELL.]

* * * *

CHURCHES.

IN Aberdeen, there are about twenty-six places for public worship. The most conspicuous are, the presbyterian or established churches; the episcopalian, Scotch and English; and the Roman Catholic. As to the others, they are all distinguished by appropriate names, which are known to those who preach in them, and perhaps, to the more intelligent of their hearers. They are all of the church of Christ, but differ about some points of doctrine, or ceremonies, which it would be difficult to explain.

East and West Churches.—These are called the *Town's*, and are fine Gothic buildings. St. Nicolas Church was

built in the year 1482, and is said to have possessed an air of grandeur and simplicity, which both charmed and awed the spectator. The middle aisle was wide and lofty; the arches very high; and the piers light and well turned*. It was in danger of falling, and was pulled down in the year 1743, that the present West Church might be built on its site.

"The West Church is an hundred feet six inches long, and sixty-six feet broad. The middle aisle is twenty-five feet broad, and each of the side aisles, including the thickness of the piers, twenty feet and an half. The piers between the arches, are four feet six inches, by three feet. Though this church is fifteen feet six inches shorter than the old one, it contains near double the number of people, from the better construction of the galleries. The side walls are parallel with the walls of the East, formerly called the New Church, and of the same height. The windows are in the modern style. In the west gable is a large arched window, from the bottom of which is projected, with a gentle slope, a gallery for the masters and scholars of the grammar-school. From the front of this gallery spring two side ones, on a line with the inside of the piers, till they close the square, by intersecting the corners of a gallery in the east end, appropriated for the magistrates.

"In the centre of this gallery there is a canopy, supported by four fluted mahogany columns, of the Corinthian order, with their capitals gilt. There is a pediment

* Douglas, p. 102.

pediment in front, on which the town's arms are cut in *alto relievo*, and properly coloured. Over the breast of the gallery hangs a deep covering of crimson-velvet, with a gold fringe. The lord provost sits under the canopy, with the bailies, and other magistrates, on his right and left, according to their rank and seniority. On a dead wall, at the back of the gallery, are two pieces of tapestry; the one representing Ahasuerus holding forth the golden sceptre to queen Esther; the other, Jephtha meeting his daughter. A very elegant pulpit and reader's desk, stand on the centrical pier on the south side wall of the middle aisle.

"This church was built from a plan presented to the town, by the celebrated Mr. James Gibb, architect, a citizen of Aberdeen. In the year 1751, the magistrates contracted with Mr. Wylie, a wright from Edinburgh, who agreed to complete the design for four thousand pounds sterling, only the magistrates were to cover the roof with lead, at their own expense. It was opened for public worship, on Sunday, the 9th of November, 1755, when Mr. James Ogilvie, then one of the town's ministers, preached from these words, "In all places where I record my name, will I come "unto thee, and I will bless thee."—Exod. xx. 24.

"The East Church is a fine Gothic building, eighty-six feet in length, to the breast of the altar. The arches which divide the middle and side aisles, are lofty, and supported by strong pillars. The church has a double row of galleries in the west end, and a single row on each side; the breasts of them in a line with the pillars. On the east end, during the establish-

ment

ment of popery and episcopacy, the altar stood in a large bow-window, divided into three lights, by small stone piers. This projection is twenty-two feet broad in front, eighteen feet deep, and about thirty-six feet high. It was called the *Sanctum sanctorum*, from the purpose to which it was appropriated. It is now fitted up with pews for the old people and children in the poor-house.

"In the body of the church hang several large brass chandeliers; and before the upper gallery in the west end, hangs a small ship in full trim, to indicate that the gallery is appropriated for sea-faring people. The pulpit is on the north side; backward from which we enter to a large room where the church-session meets to do business. In the wall, near the session-house door, a small flat stone marks the place where Mr. Adam Hariot, their first protestant minister, was buried. Between the two churches, there is a lofty cross building, called Drum's Aisle, in one end of which the presbytery and synod of Aberdeen meet. It is about one hundred feet long, twenty feet broad, and seems about fifty feet high in the roof, which is a platform covered with lead, as both churches and the session-house are.

"From the centre of this aisle rises a small square tower, about twelve feet high, in which five large bells are hung, one above another; on each corner of the tower, on the outside, is a small square wooden spire, formed of strong cross logs of oak, mortized and pinned into one another. The spire ends in a point, and has a gilt ball and weathercock at top; it is curiously co-

vered

vered with sheet-lead, We ascend to it from the floor of the aisle, by almost perpendicular stairs and ladders of sixty-four steps. The steeple is furnished with an exceeding good public clock, which chimes the quarters; and on each of the squares, there is a large dial-plate.

"The largest bell, called Laurence, is four feet diameter at the mouth, very thick, and three and an half feet high; of old, there was an act of council made, that this bell should not be tolled but for the great and honourable.

"Though the whole of the cross building is commonly called Drum's Aisle, yet, properly speaking, that end of it where the synod meets, should only be so called, for there the Drum family have always been buried. That they had originally a property in it, is evident from the family arms being cut in the stone pier, between the windows, and stampt upon the lead of the roof. The town of Aberdeen never would have permitted this, had not the laird of Drum merited, by his benefactions to the building, the exclusive privilege of burying in that part of it. The family also founded an altarage in the church of St. Nicolas, to the honour of God and St. Ninian, who had three altars in that church. Those of the Drum family who are buried in this aisle, pay no burial dues to the town, unless they had been *foris familiated*."

The burying-ground is extensive, but not large enough to accommodate the increased population of Aberdeen; and a considerable addition has lately been made to it. It is inclosed with a high stone and lime

lime wall, in which there are four large gates, and a side entry, by a door; and another entry is just now opening from Union-street. There are a great many tombs on the west wall, but few of them in a good taste.

St. Paul's Chapel stands on the west side of the Gallowgate, where divine service is performed according to the rites of the church of England. It was built in the year 1721, and is eighty feet long, and thirty feet broad, and has an aisle on the north side, thirty-six feet in front, and twenty-one feet backward. The galleries are eleven feet eight inches above the floor of the chapel. In the centre of the roof is a handsome cupola, about nine feet diameter, and covered with glass. There are two clergymen appointed to this chapel, who are supported by the seat-rents, collections at the doors, and some funds arising from donations*.

St. Andrew's Chapel, which belongs to Bishop Skinner, is situated in Longacre. It is a large house, and well filled by a numerous body of Scotch episcopalians. This sect has also another chapel in Golden-square, a little to the west of Union-street, which is a neat house, with a small, but elegant steeple on the north-west end. Each of these three chapels has an organ, which is a great improvement to their psalmody.—In the presbyterian churches, organs have not been admitted: the attempt to introduce them was made at Glasgow, but the fanatics opposed it, and the General Assembly sanctioned their folly. The more rational part of the presbyterians

* Douglas, p. 102—106.

presbyterians would have no objections to see organs in their churches; but the ignorant, who are numerous and bigotted, would think the introduction of organs an approach to popery, which they are taught to consider as the worst of all religious establishments.

The *Roman Catholic Chapel* is situated at the north extremity of Castle-street, and is attended by a very genteel congregation.

Medical Society.—A particular account of the rise and progress of the Aberdeen Medical Society, containing the laws, regulations, &c. was printed in the year 1796, for the use of the members. For the information of the public, the author takes the liberty to quote largely from the introduction to that little book; at the same time, waving the preliminary observations on the importance of the art of medicine, as he doubts if it is yet brought to such perfection, as to enable its professors to "strew the borders of the grave with "flowers*."

"For the establishment of a medical society at Aberdeen, several attempts had been made; but they all proved abortive, till the year 1789, when, by the unremitted exertions of a few young men, engaged in the study of medicine, the present society was set on foot. By them no labour was spared, nor any means left untried, that seemed likely to give stability to the institution, and promote its success. But as several prior attempts had been made in vain for a like establishment, it was their determined resolution not to make

* Introduction, printed in 1796, p. 1.

make known the scheme, even to the gentlemen of the faculty residing in the place, and still less to the public at large, until a trial, for a reasonable time, should prove the probability of its success.

"Some time after its institution, the members, in consequence of the progress it had made, and presuming that its obvious utility would draw the patronage and attention of those more immediately connected with medicine, gave intimation of it to the medical gentlemen of the place, and afterwards to the professors of both colleges; from whom it received, not only a general approbation, but many particular marks of their attention.

"As the members had no particular place of meeting, the present professor of Greek, in Marischal College, whose exertions for the promotion of science are well known, was pleased to offer his class-room for the accommodation of the society. In it the meetings were held weekly; and the only business done, was the reading of a dissertation by one of the members.

"For a considerable time after its institution, the society had no property; and the only collections made, were to defray the necessary expenses. But, in February, 1791, the members, conscious of the utility and advantages that are derived from the establishment of a public library, made a proposal for an institution of this kind. This, by the liberal donations of the members, and other gentlemen friendly to the society, has been well supported, and now consists of many hundred volumes.

"In June 1791, a plan was proposed for the establish-

ment

ment of a medical museum. This indeed, from the want of anatomical prelections, and from the difficulty of procuring recent subjects, is an object which the society has had very much at heart, for several years past, as being a source of instruction, to the young students especially, in many respects more useful than books. But although the members have taken advantage of every opportunity in their power, to promote this important establishment, their efforts have hitherto been attended with but little success; and they are sorry to observe, that the preparations yet collected, fall far short, both in number and variety, of what would be requisite for illustrating even the general principles of anatomy. And as there is but little probability that the society will ever be able of itself to procure such a number of preparations, as can make the museum either useful or respectable, it is hoped, the members will be forgiven, if they presume to solicit the patrons of this science to contribute, as much as lies in their power, to its advancement. It cannot be doubted, that among those, into whose hands the present pamphlet may come, there will be some, particularly at London and Edinburgh, who may have it very much in their power to assist the society in this way. A late traveller, in a tour through Italy, observes, that at the anatomical theatres of some of the universities in that country, preparations are frequently thrown into the dunghill, which would be considered as highly ornamental in a London collection. In like manner, it is probable, that at the anatomical theatres of London and Edinburgh, many preparations

are suffered to perish, which would be valuable acquisitions to the students of Aberdeen.

"But the members, though anxious for the advancement of their library and museum, did not overlook that part of medical science more immediately connected with practice.—Some time after the institution, a resolution was entered into, that a book should be kept under the care of the secretary, for the insertion of observations and cases, occurring to practitioners at a distance; and the society is already in possession of several valuable cases, communicated by different medical gentlemen. It has often been matter of regret, that too many valuable and important cases, falling under the observation of physicians at a distance from the capital, have been frequently lost to the public; but here an opportunity is given them, not only of obliging the society by such communications, but also of making them of general utility. It may likewise be of considerable importance to record remarkable changes of the weather, with the prevailing epidemics of particular places. All such communications may therefore be addressed *To the Secretary of the Medical Society.*

"In 1762, from the flourishing state of the society, and for the convenience of the members, it was thought expedient to print the laws and regulations, and a catalogue of the books belonging to the society. By this means too, the institution came to be more generally known; at the same time, it was a means of recommending it to the patronage of literary men, and the friends of medical improvement throughout the island;

island; many of whom, residing at a distance, and of them not a few connected with this place, by birth, education, or otherwise, there is good reason to believe, had never before heard that such an institution existed. To the friends of science in general, but more particularly to those who belong to the medical profession, the news of any such institution will naturally be in some degree, acceptable, if not interesting. It can hardly fail to excite a transient wish of success, even from persons the most indifferent to such pursuits. In the breasts of many, it has already awakened sentiments the most friendly and beneficent, and a corresponding conduct. For it is a flattering circumstance to the members, that the present institution has met the approbation, and received the patronage, of some men of the first literary talents; and in particular, by means of several eminent and worthy characters in London and Edinburgh, the society has received a considerable number of valuable donations to the library. It is much owing to these, and to the gentlemen of the faculty of this place, that the society has attained its present flourishing condition.

" In consequence of the numerous additions which have been made to the library, and from other circumstances, a second edition of the Laws, &c. has become necessary. The members at a distance will now have an opportunity of observing the progress the society has of late made. At present, there are none of the young men here, who are not desirous of obtaining a seat in the society, as soon after the commencement of their studies, as the established regulations

will permit. Even when first established, it proved of the utmost utility to most of those who have studied medicine here, for some years past. It awakened a spirit of emulation before unknown, and was the means of promoting a regular plan, and habit of application, among the generality of the students: nay, it may be said with great truth, very few members have bidden farewell to the society, without acknowledging with gratitude, the benefits they have derived from it.

"The members who compose this society are divided into three classes, distinguished by the names of *Honorary*, *Extraordinary*, and *Ordinary*, and their respective duties are prescribed by the following rules.

"*Honorary Members.*—1. A place in this class is presented by the society without solicitation.

"2. They receive a diploma upon admission.

"3. They are the custodes of the society's property, in case of its dissolution, or any other occurrence that may require their interference.

"4. They may propose honorary or extraordinary members."

"*Extraordinary Members.*—1. This class consists of men of letters and liberal professions, whether practitioners in medicine or not.

"2. They may be admitted with, or without solicitation.

"3. They have diplomas.

"4. They are neither obliged to attend the meetings, nor pay contributions.

"5. They have no vote in any business of the society,

ciety, unless they have previously attended the meetings for three weeks.

" *Ordinary Members.*—1. This class must consist of medical students only.

" 2. No one can be admitted an ordinary member, without direct solicitation, and any associate may inform the society of his request.

" 3. Every person upon admission, must pay 10s. 6d., and purchase a printed copy of the laws.

" 4. The above form must be observed for the readmission of such as have seceded; and they must pay one-half of the original entry-money on again becoming members.

" 5. Every new member must sign the following obligation:—' We, whose names are underwritten, ' bind and oblige ourselves, that we will, to the ut- ' most of our power, promote the interests and honour ' of this society; and that we will never agree to any ' measures destructive of its institution.'

" 6. The attendance of ordinary members must be regular.

" 7. It is their privilege to vote the admission of members of every class.

" 8. No one can be admitted as an ordinary member, until he has studied medicine four months. And between the time of his being proposed, and the time of being balloted for, he must be examined by a committee of the society (of which the two presidents are members), who are to report to the society before the balloting.

" 9. The secretary must be present at the meeting

of every committee, to take down and lay before the society, the questions proposed by the committee to the intrant member, together with his answers."

As a medical school, Aberdeen does not rank very high, and it is scarcely to be expected that it should, as long as the medical chairs of both colleges are *sinecures*, which is the case at present; and it is a gross abuse that ought to be corrected—Several of the gentlemen of the profession are as eminent as any to the north of the Forth, both for their knowledge in the theory and practice of medicine, and for their acquirements in literature; but there are others of such humble pretensions, as may be found in any country village.

Dispensaries.—There are two institutions of this description in Aberdeen. The one, under the care of Dr. Dyce; and the other, under that of Dr. Selbie. In the first, the number of patients last year, was 449; of whom 424 were cured, six died, and under cure, there were nineteen, on the 7th June, 1810. In the second, the number of patients was 584; of whom 497 were cured; 14 relieved; four incurable; 10 sent to the hospital; 15 died; and 44 were under cure.

Vaccine Institution.—This valuable institution was established in the year 1803. The provost of Aberdeen is governor, and there is a numerous list of managers for conducting its affairs. Dr. James Allan is operator, who performs inoculation gratis, at the poor's hospital, every Wednesday and Saturday.

Friendly

Friendly Societies.—The most considerable of the numerous associations in Aberdeen, are, the *Shipmaster Society; Narrow Wynd; Shiprow; St. Andrew's; St. James's; True Blue Gardeners;* and the *Barbers and Wigmakers.*

The *Shipmaster's* is the most ancient, having been originally incorporated by king James VI. in the year 1600, and again, by king George III. in 1801. This society is very rich, and their decayed members receive a corresponding allowance.

The *Narrow Wynd Society* was first erected in 1660, and its members are numerous, as well as highly respectable. To illustrate the nature of these institutions, it may not be improper to quote the printed rules and regulations of the *Narrow Wynd Friendly Society.*

" This society was originally formed in the year 1660, for the occasional relief of the poor in general, but chiefly the widows and orphans of those who then did, or should afterwards become members, in case their circumstances required it. Some years thereafter, the records and whole papers of the society were lost by an accidental fire in the Narrow-wynd; and in the years of scarcity and dearth about the end of the last century, the whole stock of the society was expended for relief of the poor, and for burying the dead.

" In September 1707, several well-disposed gentlemen formed the society of new upon the former plan, and under the same designation, which has been continued from that time, for the purpose of establishing

a fund for an annual relief to decayed necessitous members, their widows and children, by voluntary contributions; and many since that time have got a supply therefrom.

" 1. It is therefore resolved, that the society be continued, and that the produce of the stock or fund, and annual contributions, with the exceptions aftermentioned, be appropriated and applied for the mutual relief and maintenance of all and every the members thereof, in old age, sickness, and infirmity, or for the relief of the widows and children of deceased members annually: That it shall be known under the name and designation of THE NARROW WYND FRIENDLY SOCIETY; and that those who are under the above description, who are found entitled to the benefit of the fund by the society, as after-provided, shall share equally and proportionally, without one being preferred to another.

" 2. That the official managers of the society shall be composed of a preses, treasurer, and twelve assessors, who shall be elected from among the annual contributing members of the society, annually, by a free election or ballot, at the general meeting of the society, which is to be held for that purpose upon the Wednesday immediately preceding Michaelmas yearly, at six o'clock in the evening, and in one of the principal inns, or such public hall within the town of Aberdeen, as the preses for the time being shall think proper to fix, by an advertisement in the Aberdeen Journal, at least eight days before the general meeting; it being understood, that the preses and treasurer shall continue in office only one year: That the election

tion shall be made by the members putting their marks or initials to the end of such name on the leet as they shall approve, under the inspection of such number of scrutineers as the society shall appoint.

" 3. That, for the better conducting the business of the society, a clerk shall be chosen by the society from among the members, whose business it shall be to attend all the meetings of the society—to make up the treasurer's annual accompts—and to keep a regular and distinct sederunt book, in which he shall regularly minute and enter all the orders, resolutions, and transactions of the society, which shall be patent to every member. In this book shall be regularly entered and recorded the admission of every member; and the names of those found entitled to the benefit of the fund —he being allowed such salary for his trouble as the society shall think adequate: That all resolutions and orders of the society, in general meetings assembled, shall be fairly extended, read over to the society, and signed by the president's initials, in presence of the society.

" 4. That the society shall appoint a person to officiate as officer, whose duty it shall be to attend the general meetings of the society, or private meetings of the preses, treasurer, and assessors, and to obey their orders and directions in that capacity—he being allowed such salary for his trouble as the society shall think proper.

" 5. That the preses, treasurer, and assessors, for the time being, shall be a standing committee for the purpose of directing the way and manner, and the securities

rities upon which the funds of the society shall be laid out, as well as the application of the funds; subject, nevertheless, to the review and controul of the society; and five of the members of such committee, at least, shall at all times be necessary to concur in any act of such committee; and all acts and orders of such committee, under the powers hereby delegated to them, shall have the like force and effect, as the acts and orders of such society at any general meeting thereof; the preses, or in his absence, the treasurer, being always of the number.

" 6. That all monies, goods, chattels, stocks, annuities, and other transferable securities and effects whatever, belonging to the society, shall be vested in the preses and treasurer of the society for the time being, and their successors in office, preses and treasurer of said society, for the use and benefit thereof, and none others; and from and after the death or removal of any preses or treasurer, shall vest in the succeeding preses or treasurer, for the same estates and interests, as he or they had therein, and subject to the same trust, without any assignment or transfer whatever.

" 7. That all questions and matters coming before the society relative to their affairs, shall be determined by a majority of the members present, and, in case of an equality, the preses, or chairman for the time, shall be entitled to the casting vote, besides his own deliberative vote. In the absence of the preses for the time, the treasurer shall preside; and in the absence of both preses and treasurer, the members present shall have power to appoint a preses for the time being. That

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the society, when so convened, shall have power to impose and inflict such reasonable fines and forfeitures, not exceeding five shillings sterling, upon any member or members who shall offend against the present regulations, as shall be just and necessary for duly enforcing the same, or for keeping regularity in the society—such fines and forfeitures being always added to the funds.

" 8. That the treasurer shall always keep the society's writs, securities, and papers of importance,—receive in annual contributions, and entry-money from new members,—and divide and pay away the money allocated for those entitled to the benefit of the fund, agreeably to the directions of the society, or their committee: That the treasurer's accounts shall be fitted and cleared annually at the general meeting, previous to the election, and the person appointed treasurer shall be obliged to find security, in terms of the statute, for his intromissions and faithful management, if found necessary, or insisted upon by any ten members present at his election, before he enter upon his office: That all the writs, vouchers of debts, securities, and other deeds of importance, shall be deposited in a chest having three keys, one whereof shall be kept by the preses, one by the treasurer, and another by the clerk.

" 9. That the admission dues of every person desiring to be admitted a member of this society, shall be one guinea; but it shall be in the power of the society, at any general meeting, to increase the entry-money as the funds advance: That no person shall be admitted but at the annual general meeting of the society; and

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it shall be certified by a majority of the committee for the time being, that he is a person of good character, worthy to be admitted a member, and his application for admission shall be given in to the preses, at least ten days before the annual general meeting. And any person who shall be refused by the committee, shall have it in his power to apply to the first meeting, who shall, in the same mode as is proposed for the election of office-bearers, reject or admit by vote and scrutiny.

" 10. Each member of the society already admitted, and each member who shall hereafter be admitted, shall, at the annual general meeting, contribute and pay to the treasurer, two shillings sterling; and any member who shall fail to pay for three years, if residing within the town of Aberdeen, shall be considered as no longer a member of the society, and he, and his family, in the event of his death, shall forfeit every benefit from the funds: That each member shall also pay a crown on his marriage, and one shilling for each child of such marriage, to be added to the funds of the society.

" 11. That those who shall be entitled to the benefit of the funds, are decayed necessitous members, in old age, sickness, and infirmity, and the necessitous widows and children of deceased members.

" 12. That no decayed member, his widow or children, shall be entitled to receive any benefit from the funds of the society, unless such member shall have regularly paid his annual contribution, and other dues, thereto, for the space of seven years; but declaring, that in case of the death of any member, before these

years

years are expired, his widow and children shall have power to pay up such annual contribution as the member has been deficient, so as to complete the said seven years contribution; but this must be done before the application for the benefit of the funds.

" 13. That no child or children shall be entitled to the benefit of the fund, in the event of a widow of the father of such child or children, being on the funds at the same time, nor after their attaining fourteen years of age, unless from bodily or mental infirmities they shall be incapable of earning their bread; in which case, the committee of managers shall have power to continue the annual allowance: That no person shall be entitled to this benefit, unless it is certified by two or more of the assessors for the time being, or the society at large, that such person is, to the best of their knowledge and information, an object deserving the benefit of the funds.

" 14. That it shall be in the power of the society, or their committee of managers for the time, to make such addition to the stock or funds of the society, as the state of the poor will admit of; it being always understood, that some addition shall be made annually to the stock, and that in no case shall any encroachment be made upon it.

" 15. That any widow on the fund marrying again, shall forfeit her benefit therefrom, and no member on the funds shall be entitled to elect, or be elected an office-bearer or assessor; nor have any vote in the direction of the society, so long as he continues on the funds.

" 16. That, in case of any dispute between the society, or the committee of managers, and any individual member of the society, the matter so in dispute shall and may be referred to such three arbitrators of character in the place, as shall be named and elected by a majority of said committee; and whatever award, order, or determination, shall be made by said arbitrators, or the major part of them, according to the true purport and meaning of these rules and regulations, shall be binding and conclusive on all parties.

" 17. That no part of the funds of the society shall, on any pretence, be applied to any other purpose than the charitable uses for which the society is formed, and the necessary expence of management, under the penalty of a dissolution of the society, or such other penalty, or pecuniary mulct, as may be imposed, upon the complaint of the procurator-fiscal of the peace, for misconduct or other misdemeanour, or at the instance of any one or more of the members of the society.

" 18. That none of the preceding rules, orders, or regulations, shall be altered, rescinded, or repealed, unless with the consent and approbation of three-fourths of the members of the society, at two subsequent general meetings, such general meetings being called by public notice in writing, signed by authority of the society, in terms of the act.

" 19. That all the preceding rules, orders, and regulations, shall be forthwith entered in the sederunt book of the society, and all members to be hereafter admitted, shall subscribe the same at their admission, by

by which they shall be strictly bound to the same, under the penalty of five pounds sterling *."

Society for the benefit of the families of Clergymen.—This useful institution was established about twenty years ago. It is supported by yearly subscriptions—the interest of money presented to it—and the collection arising from an annual sermon. At the last general meeting, June 21st, 1811, the society distributed L.104 among eighteen indigent families of deceased clergymen of the established church. The families of professors in the universities, and of ministers of chapels of ease, are also included within the sphere of its usefulness. The society has of late received large subscriptions, raised among gentlemen in India, connected with the county, or friendly to their charitable design; but they have still to regret, that they have never yet been able to grant donations nearly adequate to the wants of those who have applied to them for relief.

The affairs of the society are managed by a president, a committee of members, and a secretary and treasurer.

Mason-Lodges.—In the following list, the lodges are ranked according to seniority, viz.

Aberdeen Lodge, consisting of from 2 to 300 members.

St. Machar's,	do.	do.	20 to 30 do.
St. Nicolas,	do.	do.	150 to 200 do.
St. Andrew's,	do.	of about	200 do.
Old Aberdeen,	do.	do.	100 do.

* There are about forty of these friendly societies in Aberdeen.

St. Luke's, consisting of about 240 members.
Operative, do. of do. 300 do.
St, James's, do. of do. 100 do.
St. George's, do. of do. 200 do.

Contributing members pay 4s. each annually; and the entry-money varies in the different lodges from £1 10s. to £3 3s. sterling. Besides the above, there is attached to each lodge, a number of honorary members, who pay upon entry about the half of what is charged from the contributing members, and they are entitled to no share of the funds.

The funds of the respective lodges are laid out in purchasing houses in Aberdeen; and they hold property among them to the amount of about £10,000 sterling. Superannuated members receive from 30s. to 40s. annually; widows and orphans somewhat less; and sick members, from 2s. to 3s. weekly. When a member dies, L.20 are allowed towards defraying funeral expences.

Masonic associations are not held in so much repute now as formerly. While they were merely social meetings, they were perfectly harmless, but when politics were introduced in their discussions, they degenerated into conventicles for the propagation of dangerous doctrines. On the continent, they have been very generally suppressed, and in this country they can scarcely be kept alive, notwithstanding their anxiety to obtrude themselves on the notice of the public, by their quarrels and squabbles*. The ceremonies,

* See the dispute between the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and some of the other lodges in Edinburgh.

monies, and all the mummery of initiation into the mysteries of masonry, at least as far as the three degrees, are quite harmless, but may be considered as trifling; and it is sufficiently preposterous in masons to pretend to secrets important either to themselves, or to mankind. Their lives and conduct prove them to be no better members of society than other men, and therefore, it becomes a fair conclusion, that they are not in possession of any thing which gives them the smallest superiority over the rest of mankind. A few childish ceremonies, which are varied according to circumstances, obscure tales, and a senseless jargon, can never be valuable to society, but may be made mysterious by the exaction of awful oaths. This, indeed, is the most objectionable part of the whole, as oaths should be applied only to matters of magnitude; and in this case they are unnecessary for the purpose of enforcing secrecy, as there is very little chance of the initiated exposing themselves to ridicule by the disclosure of their own folly. It may be said also, that drinking wine out of a human scull is somewhat indecent; but as this ceremony properly belongs to the *Templars*, a man may be initiated in the simple degrees without the necessity of drinking from such a cup. But so little interesting is free masonry to its members, that perhaps not twenty in Aberdeen could carry a *novice* through the common forms of the order.

Continental free masonry, according to Robinson*, derived its origin from the English school, and was

 propagated

* See Introduction to "Proofs of a Conspiracy," &c.

propagated with great success by artful adventurers, who turned it into a source of private emolument. But the simple form of English masonry did not suit the enthusiasm of the votaries of mysticism in France and Germany, and they ingrafted upon it much nonsense of their own, of rather a dangerous tendency, which finally awakened the vigilance of the ruling powers, but too late to avert the mischief that had been engendered.

German masonry was constituted purely on the English system, and although the French had also received their instruction from the same source; yet their ardour, and love of novelty, led them to refine upon it, by introducing various higher degrees unknown to the mother lodge in London. Emissaries from the French school soon overspread Germany, and the brethren were bewildered by the different systems taught by impostors. One delusion was so quickly followed by another, that they knew not what to believe; and, tired with a succession of absurdities, they wisely resolved to find out the true source of masonry. This, however, was an arduous pursuit, as no man knew where to direct his inquiries: but it was imagined that the secrets they so earnestly desired, were to be found only in the wilds of Scotland. Ambassadors were accordingly dispatched to Aberdeen. They had been led to believe, that the doctors in the Old Town were the depositaries of all that was valuable in masonry. The doctors were astonished: and great was the mortification of the deputies, when they found that the learned men could neither convert base metal into

into gold, nor raise the devil, nor even knew any thing farther about masonry than "the simple tale of old "Hiram." The degrees of apprentice, fellow-craft, and master, comprised the whole of the modest masonry of the Aberdeen doctors, who could never be accused of possessing the *second sight!*

As charitable institutions, masonic societies are highly praiseworthy; and in their social meetings, they are as harmless as county clubs, or civic dinner parties. While they confined themselves to the proper business of the lodge, there could have been no objection to them; but when other topics were encouraged, the secrecy observed enabled intriguing men to insinuate opinions hostile to morality and good government; at least, such was said to be the case in the continental lodges: and therefore, *illuminatism*, with all the airy superstructure which had been raised on simple masonry, was abolished.

To those who are totally unacquainted with masonry, the following copy of a knight-templar's diploma, may be a curiosity; and it certainly shews a little of that blasphemous nonsense which prevails among these sons of mysticism.

"In the Name of the Holy Undivided Trinity,

"*Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

"WE, the High Priest, Captain-General, and
"Grand Master of a *Royal Arch* excellent, and *Sir*
"*Knights Templars* encampment, held under the sanc-
"tion of *St. James's Lodge*, N°. 165 on the registry of
"Scotland, DO certify, that our trusty and well-be-

loved

" loved brother, Worshipful A—— B——, after
" having passed the chair of the said Lodge, was by
" us regularly initiated in the sublime degrees of a
" *Royal Arch* excellent mason, and subsequently dub-
" bed a *Knight* of the most ancient and right honour-
" able order of *Knight Templars,* having withstood
" with skill, fortitude, and valour, the amazing trials
" attending his admission.—Given under our hands
" and seals of our Encampment, at our General As-
" sembly, this day of 1811, and
" of *Light,* 5811.

Signed, A. B.—*H. P.*
C. D.—*C. G.*
E. F.—*G. M.*
G. H.—*Secretary.*

Barracks.—The barracks are erected on the castle-hill. The building commenced in 1794, and was finished in 1796, and the expence of erection and fitting up, amounted to about L.16,000. They are calculated to contain 46 soldiers' rooms, exclusive of the officers' apartments, and rated to hold 542 men. An hospital was built in the year 1799, which cost about L.2000. Captain Fullerton is barrack-master, and the salary attached to his office, is about equal to a captain's pay in the army, besides coal, candle, and stationary. Several of the soldiers' apartments are used as store rooms, and the lower flat is occupied with a mess-room, cellars, &c.

Bridewell.—

Bridewell.—From the increasing population of the city and county of Aberdeen, and consequent increase of delinquents, a plan was suggested for their solitary confinement; and accordingly, an act of parliament was applied for and obtained in 1802, for building and maintaining a house of correction, for the city and county of Aberdeen.

This building was finished in 1809, and opened for the reception of culprits of both sexes, on Monday the 2d day of October. It stands on the rising ground to the west of the town, near the chapel of ease, surrounded with a wall 14 feet high, enclosing a garden and airing grounds, for the use of the prisoners. The house consists of five floors; the upper one of which is used as an hospital and store-rooms. A gallery or passage in each floor, runs the whole length of the house, having at each end a large Venetian window. On one side of this gallery are the cells allotted for labour—eleven in number; each lighted by two long narrow windows: and on the other side, are the bed-chambers, fourteen in number, having each one window of the same dimensions as the others. Each prisoner is therefore accommodated with two separate apartments—a plan which tends much to the health and cleanliness of the prisoners. An additional building projects from the centre, of the same height with the main house; in which there are the governor's apartments, kitchen, committee-room, chapel, and surgeon's apartments. The whole building cost ten thousand five hundred pounds, which, with the annual

expence,

expence, is to be defrayed by an assessment on the inhabitants of the city and county.

The management of the bridewell is conducted by a governor appointed by the commissioners, who, at their periodical meetings, visit and inspect the different prisoners under his charge, in order to enquire into, and redress, if necessary, any complaint that may be made against his mode of treatment. The prisoners are employed in such labour as they are capable of performing. An exact account is kept of the wages of their labour, and the balance, after defraying the expence of their maintenance, is paid to them by two instalments: the first, when the period of their confinement expires; and the other, six months after, upon producing a certificate of proper behaviour.

The bye-laws and regulations drawn up by the commissioners for the internal management and œconomy of the bridewell, provide sufficiently for the restraint and security, as well as for the cleanliness and health of the prisoners.

Justices and magistrates are empowered to inspect the bridewell as often as they may think proper, and to report any abuses which may be discovered to the quarter sessions. Visiting justices are also appointed by the quarter sessions to examine into the state of the house, the treatment and condition of the prisoners, &c.

This institution is likely to be productive of much benefit to the town and county of Aberdeen, as it is sufficiently adapted for the purposes of labour and solitary confinement, which, blended with religious instruction,

instruction, have been found, in institutions of the kind which have been established in other populous towns, the best means yet devised to answer one great end of punishment—the amendment of the offender.—Sir G. O. Paul, of Gloucestershire, says, that "confinement to punish, should also be confinement to "reform. It should be a state of continued occupation, and of complete seclusion from the society of "former friends and associates: by the one, a habit "of industry is created; by the other, reflection is "forced on the mind."—To make the Aberdeenshire bridewell productive of such salutary effects, has been the constant aim of the commissioners, as appears from the construction, and the mode of the internal management of the house; and if they are seconded in their exertions by a steady and vigorous co-operation of the justices and magistrates, the objects of the establishment may be completely accomplished, to the great advantage of the town and county of Aberdeen.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER V.

CONTENTS.

[INCORPORATED TRADES—SOCIETY OF ADVOCATES.]

* * * *

INCORPORATED TRADES.

THE trades of Aberdeen are incorporated into one body, which consists of the following seven branches, viz. *Hammermen, Bakers, Wrights and Coopers, Tailors, Shoemakers, Weavers,* and *Fleshers.* One convener presides over the whole; but each has a deacon, and other officers, respectively, for its government, and the management of the affairs of the trade. One of the established ministers of the town is elected patron, and invested with certain powers of superintendance, in compliance with the mortification of Dr. Guild, who was a liberal benefactor to the corporations*.

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* Dr. Shirrefs' Life of Dr. Guild, p. 39.

It is mentioned in the records of the convener-court, for the year 1632, that "Dr. William Guild, "pastor of Aberdeen, and patron of the traids of the "said burgh, did mortifie and bestow several annui-"ties and casualties; and in particular, did bestow "somewhat freely, in assisting the foresaid traids, to "build and repair their meeting-house [hall] and "chapel, and for that effect did appoynt that a faith-"ful, Christian, honest man (one of the said traids), "shall be chosen yearlie, by advice of the patron, "and his successors, as patrons, with consent of the "members of the deacon conveiner court, to collect "the whole rents and casualties belonging thereto, as "he shall be appoynted, by the acts made, or to be "made thereanent." In June, next year (1633), the deed of foundation was ratified by royal charter.

The object of the institution is sufficiently illustrated by the preamble to the deed of mortification, which declares, "*Wit ye me*, to the glory of God, "comfort of the needy, and good example of others, "charity to the poor, whom our Lord Jesus Christ, to "the end of the world left amongst us, to be nourish-"ed, clothed, and fed,—to have founded, gifted, and "perpetually mortified to the poor tradesmen of "Aberdeen, and by this my present charter, to "found, gift, and perpetually mortify to them, all "and haill the place or monastery of the Holy Tri-"nity of the burgh of Aberdeen, &c.—to be an hos-"pital for the *poor old tradesmen* of the burgh, to be "sustained in the same, who shall be of *good fame*, "and not *redacted to poverty through their own vice, or* "*drunkenness*

" *drunkenness or intemperance*; and therefore that none " be brought into the said hospital, *or receive of the* " *fruits of the said mortification*, but *good, holy, and* " *sober men.*"

Dr. Guild, constantly bent on objects of beneficence, at an after period (15th September, 1655), bequeathed a legacy to the corporations, as follows:—" That " out of the charitable disposition he had to the poor, " and in obedience to the Lord's precepts, 1 Tim. vi. " 17. and Heb. xiii. 16. he bound and obliged him, " and his heirs allenarly, to the master of hospital, " deacon convener of the crafts of Aberdeen for the " time, and remanent deacons, to pay to them the " sum of *five thousand merks* Scots money, at the next " term after his decease, for the entertaining of three " poor boys who are craftsmens sons, as bursars in the " new college of Aberdeen, who are good ingynes, " and able for the said college, and either have not " parents to put them to the college, or whose parents " are poor, and known to be unable to maintain them " thereat: But if it should please his heirs rather to " denude themselves of the heritable right which he " had of his fore-house in the Castlegate, wherein he " himself dwelt, and brew-house (or victual-house) " with the room above, on the other side of the close, " rather than to pay the five thousand merks, in that " case, he bound and obliged his heirs to denude them- " selves of the heritable right of the said house, in " favour of the trades, for the use fore-named, the " infeftment to be on the expence of the mortifier of " the Trinity Hospital, reserving to the mortifier's

" wife, her life-rent of the house.—If any variance " should be concerning the bestowing of any of these " burses, the eldest minister of Aberdeen (as the most " conscientious to see mortifications go right), to de- " cide therein.—And that impartially the said benefit " be bestowed, out of the rents of the house, upon the " unablest in means, and the best qualified in gifts, as " they shall answer to God; which house in all time " coming (that it, nor the rents thereof, be not per- " verted to any other use), to be called the *Bursar's* " *House*; and when any of them are laureat, they by " writing, to oblige themselves, for the benefit re- " ceived, when God enables them, to add to this mor- " tification; and this their writing to be carefully " kept in the master of hospital's box, either by it- " self, or rather in a book made for the purpose, who " (the master of hospital) shall set the house, by ad- " vice of the convener and deacons, and uptake the " rents thereof, and to be conjunct with them in the " patronage and election of said bursars."

Dr. Guild, a short time before he died, bequeathed, in the year 1657, seven thousand merks, " to be se- " cured on land by the town-council and kirk-session " of Aberdeen, the yearly profit of which to be ap- " plied for the sustenation of poor orphans—to hold " them at schools or trades impartially, without in- " verting any way this mortification, as they shall an- " swer to God."

The several corporations assemble in their hall at particular times, to hold their courts, in which the deacons of each preside. The *convener courts* also

meet

meet in this place, and they are constituted by the convener, deacons, and certain representatives from the corporations*.

About the year 1771, it was resolved by the corporations to establish a fund for a provision to the widows of tradesmen, which was accordingly accomplished, and much benefit has resulted from this benevolent measure. But, independently of the general fund, each corporation has its peculiar institution for the same humane purpose; and one of the most considerable belongs to the tailor trade.

Mr. James Milne bequeathed a legacy "for the use "and behoof of the sons of decayed freemen of the "*Tailor trade*, for instructing them in *reading*, *writing*, "and *accompting*, and *binding them apprentices* to trades "within the burgh of Aberdeen, the names of *Milne* "and *Lilly* to be preferred."—At present, the poor "persons deriving benefit from the funds of the tai-"lor trade, consist of seventeen superannuated mem-"bers; fifteen widows; and thirteen children;—among whom there is distributed annually not less a sum than from L.260 to L.270 sterling; besides, from 130 to 140 bolls of coals, and some occasional donations.

As a specimen of the mode of electing the office-bearers, and managing the affairs of the corporations, the following account, relating to the tailors, is presented to the reader.

The corporation of tailors at present, consists of 46 members, regularly qualified and admitted, who are annually called about Michaelmas, to elect a deacon

* Shirrefs' Life of Guild, p. 94.

and other office-bearers. The deacon is first elected by a majority of votes: he then gives in a list of six members; the old deacon presenting at same time, a list of five. From these eleven tailors, five are elected to serve as masters, and a boxmaster is chosen from the masters, two of whom are proposed as candidates by the deacon. The duty of the boxmaster is to collect and disburse the monies belonging to the corporation throughout the year, which he does without any salary or reward whatever.—At Michaelmas next year, the boxmaster presents his accounts, which are read over in presence of the whole trade; and a committee of seven members is appointed to inspect and compare them with the vouchers, when, if right, they are attested by these auditors.

Society of Advocates—The society of advocates in Aberdeen is of high antiquity; and it appears by their records of matriculation, that from the year 1549 to 1600, no fewer than 52 members were admitted as practitioners before the courts. They received a renewal of their charter in May 1799, which confirmed their privileges, and established them into a corporate body. The regulations by which they are governed, are contained in a set of *bye-laws* adopted by the society on the 19th of June, 1799, which they ordain to be strictly observed in future by every member of the society.

"I. The funds of the society being destined for the aid and support of the decayed and indigent members thereof, their widows, children, and other relations, as

after

after specified; the same shall in future be applied solely for these purposes, in terms of the charter."

II. The amount of the distributions are limited to the *free* yearly produce of their funds: "nor shall they be obliged to distribute, in one year, any more of said free produce than to them may appear necessary for answering charitable purposes."

III. The order of preference of the distribution is established to be, "First, To decayed indigent members; Secondly, To the indigent widows of deceased members; Thirdly, To the indigent children, and failing them, grandchildren of deceased members; and, Fourthly, To the indigent parents, or brothers and sisters of the deceased members, and children of such brothers and sisters. Providing, that while any person in a prior class shall receive aid from the funds of the society, none more remote, claiming under the same member, shall have any benefit from the funds."

IV. The distribution can only be made at the annual general meeting, held on the last Tuesday of November; and all applications for assistance from the funds, must be made, at least one month previously to the meeting, otherwise the consideration of them is deferred until next general meeting in November, unless in cases of urgent necessity; and it is also provided, that a general meeting may be called to grant an interim supply, not exceeding L.10, when circumstances occur of such a nature as to require it.

V. "No person already admitted, or to be hereafter admitted a member of the society, shall be entitled to the benefit of their funds, either for himself, his widow, or

or relations, until after the expiry of seven years from the date of his admission as a member."

VI. The amount of the payment of each member of the society, is fixed at L.1 : 7 : 6 sterling annually, for the benefit of the funds, and 2s. 6d. for the maintenance of the library, under the penalty of 30s. besides the annual contribution. Failing to pay for two consecutive years, exposes the member either to a prosecution for arrears and penalties, or to expulsion from the society; in which case, his interest in the funds, and that of his family ceases.

VII. "The society, in terms of their charter, shall hold two general meetings yearly, one on the last Tuesday of June, and the other on the last Tuesday of November; at the last of which they shall elect a president and treasurer for the ensuing year, and a committee of five members for giving their advice and direction in managing the funds. The meeting shall also appoint a committee of five members, along with the president and treasurer, for the purpose of examining such candidates as may apply to be admitted members of the society."

VIII. The president, or any five or more of the members, have the power to call a general meeting of the society at any time as occasion may require; provided such meeting is duly intimated by the officer of the society to every member resident in Aberdeen at the time, by printed or written tickets, expressing the object of the meeting.

IX. The society's books and accounts consist, 1. Of a sederunt-book, in which are to be regularly recorded

a copy of their charter, their future bye-laws, regulations, orders, and minutes. 2. A book of accounts, containing a description of the society's property and funds, with a statement of their cash transactions. 3. A matriculation book for the members, to record the names of the former, the present, and future members of the society. " 4th, A matriculation book for apprentices, in which shall in like manner be entered the names of all the present and former apprentices of members of the society, in life (so far as can be discovered), who, by the regulations, are entitled to apply to be received as members, as herein after enacted; and in which shall also from time to time be matriculated the names of all apprentices coming under regular indentures to any member of this society in future, and the commencement of their apprenticeships: which several books shall be kept by the treasurer of the society for the time."

X. This regulation relates to the keeping of the society's charters, title-deeds, bonds, writings of importance, &c.

XI. XII. and XIII. These regulations define the treasurer's duty in regard to the society's heritable subjects, amount of funds, lending the money on interest, &c.

XIV. " None of the society's lands, tenements, or other heritable property, shall be sold, feued out, or let in tack for any number of years, but by public roup, after due notification in the Aberdeen Journal, and after the upset price, feu duty or rent, and endurance of the lease to be granted, shall have been previously fixed by a general meeting of the society; and failing offerers

offerers at such a roup, then the committee of funds shall have power to conclude a private bargain, not under the price, feu-duty, or rent, so fixed by the society."

XV. Every member of the society before taking an apprentice, must intimate to the committee of examiners his intention in writing, containing the name of the person proposed, and his age; at the same time producing a "certificate of the said apprentice having studied Latin under some master of character, for at least four years successively, and two sessions at one of the universities." The committee being satisfied of the eligibility of the apprentice, he must be indented for not less than five years, and pay a fee of at least twenty-five guineas*.

XVI. XVII. and XVIII. When the indenture is executed, it must be produced to the treasurer, in order to be entered in the matriculation-book for apprentices, for which a charge is made of L.1 : 11 : 6 sterling, whereof L.1 : 1s. shall be applied to the funds of the society, and the remainder to the library-fund." In the event of the death of any member, or of his retiring from business, his apprentices are permitted to serve out their time with any other member, whose discharge is equivalent to that of his original master. The commencement of his apprenticeship being reckoned from the date of the treasurer's receipt, for the above L.1 : 11 : 6 sterling.

XIX. Any person applying for admission into the society,

* The apprentice fees have been since reduced to L.18 18s.

society, who has served three years, if his apprenticeship has commenced before the 22d of January 1791, and if he be regularly qualified, is received, on paying 40 guineas of entry-money for the funds of the society, and two guineas more to the library-fund. "But if such apprenticeship has commenced after the 22d of January 1791, and before the passing of these regulations, the person applying to be admitted, besides such receipt, must also produce his indenture discharged by the member he has served, bearing his having served him four years at least posterior to the date of said receipt; and shall thereupon be admitted, on payment of the foresaid sum of L.42 sterling."

XX. If the apprenticeship of the candidate applying for admission, shall have commenced subsequent to the date of these regulations, he must pay of entry-money to the funds, L.63 sterling, and three guineas to the library-fund.

XXI. The sons of members are received on paying L.31 10s. to the funds of the society, and L.1 : 11 : 6 to the library-fund.

XXII. Any person regularly qualified, who may have married a daughter of a member, is admitted, on the payment of the sums due as the sons of members.

XXIII. Every person desiring to be entered in the society, must "first intimate his intention to the president for the year, and in case of his absence from town, to the treasurer; and shall deliver to them his petitions to the several judges, with his indenture entered in the books of the society, and duly discharged in terms of these regulations; and the president, or in his

his absence, the treasurer, shall cause a general meeting of the society to be called, *pro re nata,* and shall lay before them such petitions and indentures; and if at said meeting no objection is offered to the title, or to the character and reputation of the candidate, the president of the meeting shall present the petitions to the sheriff and commissary, for their remits to the committee of examiners; and such remits being granted, the president shall, within three days after the last of them, fix a day, not above six days distant, for a meeting of the said committee, for the purpose of making trial of the candidate's abilities; and shall cause 24 hours previous notice of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting to be given by the officer of the society, to every member of the committee; at which meeting, if a majority of the committee be present, they shall proceed and take trial of the candidate's knowledge in the municipal laws, form of process before the courts at Aberdeen, and conveyancing: and if they shall find him sufficiently qualified, they shall forthwith sign and deliver to him their report to that purpose. But if the major part of the said committee shall not be present at such meeting, then the candidate's trial shall be deferred; and another day, not above a week distant, fixed for the same purpose, and 24 hours previous notice of the day, hour, and place, given as before; at which last meeting the candidate's trial shall be proceeded in, and finished without further delay, by the members of the committee then present, whatever their number may be, and report thereof shall be made accordingly; the candidate al-

ways

ways before or at receiving the report, producing the treasurer's receipt for his entry-money, and fees payable to the library fund."

XXIV. XXV. If any objection is made to a candidate's title or character, he is allowed time (not exceeding one month), to repel such objection; but if the same be not finally received, no remit can be applied for: and if, after the remit and trial, the committee of examiners shall not be satisfied of the candidate's knowledge, they may either immediately reject him, or defer his trial for a reasonable time.

XXVI. "No person, except members' sons, shall be admitted a member of the society, who has not served a regular apprenticeship, and has complied with the other regulations before-specified; nor any person whatever, under 21, or above 40 years of age, at the time of his application to the society for admission."

XXVII. It is a necessary qualification for admission into this society, that the candidate should be duly admitted a procurator before the sheriff and commissary courts: That his residence should be in the county of Aberdeen; and that he should not at any time have been a messenger at arms, or have exercised that office.

XXIX. Members of this society are prohibited from permitting clerks of court, or any persons whatever, from carrying on business under their names.

XXXIII. The library is placed under the management of a librarian, and a committee of five members, along with the president and treasurer.

XXXIV. Two members are appointed in rotation to act for the poor *gratis*.

XXXV. If any member shall conduct himself improperly, he may be expelled from the society by the votes of three-fourths of the whole: and all penalties which may be levied by the treasurer, must be added to the funds of the society.

The members of this society conduct business before the sheriff, commissary, baillie, and justice-of-peace courts; but possess no privileges beyond those which are common to the procurators of the other sheriff-courts of Scotland. Although designed *Advocates*, they are not entitled to plead before the supreme courts, or to attend the circuits, unless in the character of agents. The designation of Advocate, at first proceeded from courtesy, and conveyed no valuable or important right whatever; but it is acknowledged by their last charter, and is merely an honorary title, which they have enjoyed for upwards of two hundred years. The advocates of Aberdeen, however, combine a greater body of legal knowledge and *real talent*, than perhaps could be found in any similar society in the kingdom, exclusive of those in the two metropolitan cities: and on these alone, they have maintained a reputation which requires not the assistance of a title, but is better supported by their fair and honourable conduct.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER VI.

CONTENTS.

[MANUFACTURES—COMMERCE—BANKS—CANAL.]

* * * *

THE art of manufacturing is known, in some degree, to the most rude societies. The first object to which men direct their attention, is the production of such commodities as their urgent wants require. When they advance in civilization, new habits give birth to new inventions, and the progress of improvement is constantly in proportion to the real or imaginary wants of the society. That perpetual stimulus to exertion which arises from the desire to enjoy, operates on the creative faculties of man, and suggests schemes of improvement. But in the manipulations of the manufactory, the division of labour has produced the most important consequences. "The greatest improve-
"ment," says Dr. Smith, "in the productive powers
"of

" of labour, and the greater part of the skill, dexte-
" rity, and judgment, with which it is anywhere
" directed or applied, seem to have been the effects
" of the division of labour," because, first, " The
" division of labour, by reducing every man's busi-
" ness to some one simple operation, and by making
" this operation the sole employment of his life, ne-
" cessarily increases very much the dexterity of the
" workman."—Secondly, " The advantage which is
" gained by saving the time commonly lost in passing
" from one sort of work to another, is much greater
" than we should at first view be apt to imagine
" it;" and, thirdly, " Labour is facilitated and
" abridged by the application of proper machinery,"
the discovery of which " seems to have been origi-
" nally owing to the division of labour*."

Notwithstanding the great importance of the divi-
sion of labour, it cannot be so easily understood by a
rude society; as it is the means of exchanging the
commodities produced, or, in other words, the extent
of the market, that gives occasion to this improvement.
It is only the spare produce of labour that can be of-
fered for sale; and the exchange of one commodity
for another, depends upon the reciprocal wants of the
consumers. It therefore requires the union and co-
operation of men, as subsisting in civilized society,
to give efficacy to that principle which supports ma-
nufactures conducted by a division of labour. " In
" the lone houses and very small villages which are
" scattered

* Wealth of Nations, chap. i.

" scattered about in so desert a country as the High-
" lands of Scotland, every farmer must be butcher,
" baker, and brewer for his own family*." In every country where population is thin, artificers must perform various sorts of work; and hence they never acquire great proficiency in any one branch.—This was the case in Scotland, until of late years, that regular manufactories have been established on a plan adapted to the division of labour.

The manufactures of Scotland, previously to the introduction of machinery, were of the coarsest kind, or such as suited only the rude taste of a semi-barbarous nation. But, with the progress of arts, machinery was applied and improved: and so far back as about 150 years, a species of cloth called *fingrams*, was manufactured at Aberdeen for the foreign market, and *seys* and *serges* were made for home consumption. Dr. Skene Keith, in his valuable Survey of Aberdeenshire†, mentions, that the lands of Gilcomston were in the former century, " an extensive sheep farm, rented by
" an opulent manufacturer, whose flocks depastured
" the suburbs which surround the city" of Aberdeen " on the west, and the meadow of the Denburn." The wool of the sheep was converted into cloth; and this gentleman, uniting the characters of sheep-farmer and manufacturer, acquired a considerable fortune.

The knitting of stockings succeeded the manufacture of fingrams; and this branch was carried to its

* Wealth of Nations, chap. i.

† P. 577.

greatest height about 40 years ago. It has since much declined, owing to the want of demand in the continental markets, and the continuance of the war with which Europe has been so long distracted. The linen manufacture is also not now so flourishing as formerly, from the same causes which have operated to injure the stocking trade; and the manufacture of cotton is likewise at present extremely languid.

The three great branches of manufacture carried on at Aberdeen, are the *Woollen, Linen,* and *Cotton.*

The first may be divided into two distinct kinds: the hosiery, or stocking; and the manufacturing of cloth.

The stocking manufacture is now carried to considerable extent; and Messrs Hadden and Company, are by far the most deeply engaged in the worsted manufacture. They have more than twenty machines wrought by two steam engines; and, besides stockings, they make frocks, mitts, and all sorts of hosiery.

The application of machinery to the woollen manufacture, is of recent date, having commenced in January 1790. Previously to that time, the carding and spinning of wool were performed by the hand; but the introduction of machinery has greatly facilitated these operations; and there is every prospect of the woollen trade becoming an important branch of manufacture in Aberdeen.

Mr. Charles Baird, silk dyer, was the first who successfully introduced machinery in the manufacture of wool. In summer 1789, he went to England; and from Rochdale, brought home, at a considerable expence,

pence, two carding engines, and four spinning jennies, with the other necessary machines. That part of the machinery which required the power of water, was erected at Stoneywood; but the spinning jennies, broad and narrow looms, &c. were erected in Aberdeen. Wool was then, for the first time in Scotland, manufactured by machinery into *seys, serges, pluidens,* and other coarse cloths. About 600 pounds were manufactured weekly, for the space of six years, or until 1796, when the machinery was increased to twice the extent; and accordingly about 1200 pounds a week were produced.

The preparation of wool by hand-cards was now laid aside; and the different manufacturers in Aberdeen sent their wool to the mills to be carded and roved, and had their different spinning jennies, &c. fitted up in the city, for the purpose of completing the manufacture. The advantage of machinery was now pretty generally known, not only in Aberdeen, but in all the country round, to the distance of thirty miles; and the quantity of wool brought to the mills to be carded, &c. increased so much, that it became necessary to erect additional machinery. Two engines were therefore added to the original mill at Stoneywood, and a separate mill was erected at Buxburn; another in the parish of Fintray; one at Garlogie, parish of Skene; and another at Gordon's mills, parish of St. Machar. In the year 1799, about 4600 pounds of wool were manufactured weekly by eighteen engines, which suppplied the demand from the town and the surrounding district.

The superiority of machinery over every other mode of manufacturing wool, was now so fully understood, that those manufacturers in the neighbourhood of Peterhead who had been in the practice of sending their wool to be carded and roved at Stoneywood, erected mills, in the year 1800, for their own accommodation, at Old Deer and Strichen; and so widely are they now extended in the north of Scotland, that mills have been set to work at Huntly, Turriff, Elgin, Forres, Inverness, in Cromarty, and in Caithness.

So rapid has been the increase of this manufacture, that although not a single pound was prepared by machinery in the city of Aberdeen ten years ago, there are now upwards of 6000 pounds produced weekly, which are circulated through the country for the purpose of making stockings, trowsers, jackets, &c. &c.

With regard to cloth, Messrs Crombie, Knowles, and Company, at Cothal-mills, in the parish of Fintray, eight miles from Aberdeen, have produced the best quality: the greater part of which is sent to the south of Scotland for sale. What is sold in Aberdeen is calculated for home consumption, being of that coarse kind which is always in considerable request among the poorer sort of mechanics and day-labourers in the country districts. But the woollen trade is only in its infancy in this part of the kingdom; and we may expect, from the spirit and enterprise of the manufacturers, that it will speedily advance to perfection, to the great benefit of the city and neighbourhood of Aberdeen.

As a branch of the woollen trade, it is necessary to notice the carpet manufactory, which was established in the year 1781, at Bark-mill, by John Burnett, Esq. of Crichie, merchant in Aberdeen, and was carried on by him and his executors for the space of eight years. The manufactory was afterwards purchased by Messrs Rait and Torry, merchants, who still continue to make a durable fabric, chiefly for the home market.

Linen Manufacture.—The manufacture of flax, as conducted at Aberdeen, may be divided into three branches, viz. the making of yarn—of thread—and of cloth.

The manufacture of yarn has, for a long time, been carried to a considerable extent in Aberdeen, particularly the finer kinds from Dutch flax. It is generally made by flaxdressers, who dress the lint to the requisite degree of fineness, and give it out to be spun by the hand-wheel. Many hundred thousand spindles are annually manufactured in this way in the county of Aberdeen, and sold to thread, check, and linen cloth manufacturers in the south of Scotland, and in England. Spinning by machinery is principally confined to coarse sizes of yarn, which is converted into thread and cloth, partly manufactured in Aberdeen; but the greater proportion is sold to canvas manufacturers in Scotland and England.

The most extensive flax spinning mill in the kingdom belongs to Messrs Leys, Mason, and Company, and is situated at Grandholm, on the Don, about two miles from Aberdeen. Last year, the house contained about 240 spinning frames, which on an average

might throw off from 10,000 to 12,000 spindles of yarn weekly, which at 5s. per spindle, would amount to from £2500 to £3000 sterling. But some part of the machinery was employed in twisting the yarn for coloured thread, as the same company are also very extensive thread manufacturers. They sell part of their heavy yarns, and make the remainder into a species of cloth that is not inferior in quality to the best Russia sheetings, and answers the same purpose. This manufactory, when all its branches are united, is the most extensive of the kind in Britain, and productive of great benefit to the town of Aberdeen, from the employment it gives to labourers, and the circulation of so much money as is required to carry it on.

Another flax spinning mill was erected some years ago in the suburbs of the town, the machinery of which is driven by a steam engine. This mill, although not large, is very complete; the machinery being of the most improved kind, and the yarn produced, of the best quality.

The manufacture of threads, both bleached and coloured, is carried to great extent in Aberdeen. Besides Messrs Leys, Mason, and Company's manufactory, there is another belonging to Messrs Milne, Cruden, and Company, situated in the Gallowgate. The great market for threads of all kinds is London, as the exporters there send them all over the world, as well as supply the country dealers in England. This manufacture, which for more than half a century had been profitable to Scotland, is now much on the decline, owing to the restraining laws of our great enemy,

who

who has shut the ports of the continent against our manufactures: and owing to the introduction, in the home market, of a better quality of coloured thread, called *Patent*, which is made by the mill spinners of England. Patent threads are made of the finest flax, spun and twisted by machinery: hence they are more even, and stronger than what is produced from hand-spun yarn. The Scotish manufacturers might no doubt rival the English in this article; but the market is pre-occupied, and the English nation have a strong prejudice in favour of every thing made in their own country. It is certain, that the various attempts to manufacture patent thread in Scotland have failed, except in so far as partly to supply the limited consumption at home. The cheapness of labour formerly in Scotland, gave the Scotish a great advantage over the English thread-manufacturers, and they were driven out of their own markets: but the introduction of machinery has placed them on an equality, and the attention, industry, and consequent skill of the English, have given them the superiority over the manufacturers of this country. Bleached, or stitching threads, which form so valuable a branch of our national manufacture, are also in danger of being supplanted by cotton threads, which answer extremely well for all sorts of fine work, and are now very generally used for sewing linen and cotton fabrics.

The manufacture of linen cloth, which was once the staple commodity of the country, has much declined of late years, from causes connected partly with the political situation of Britain, and partly arising from the

the cheapness of cotton goods. For many purposes to which linen cloth was applied, a substitute has been found in cotton; and the impolicy of our own laws enables foreigners to rival us in our own markets. It has been, in general, a maxim in Britain, to prohibit the importation of manufactured commodities; but in the instance of linen yarn and cloth, that wise system has been disregarded. It may be said, that it is not an easy matter to balance with exact nicety our relations with foreign powers, and that if we should altogether exclude their manufactures, they would naturally reject ours; for it is clear, that a reciprocity of interest is the foundation of all commercial intercourse. If all the nations of the earth were one people, and under one government, it might be imprudent in the legislator to interfere with the fair operations of commerce, as every part of such an empire, however extensive, would be equally entitled to enjoy its natural advantages. But, constituted as are the different states on the face of the globe, it is a prevailing principle among them, to maintain respectively, their particular interests; and hence they grasp at every preference in commerce they deem important. If, therefore, it shall be thought expedient to give our manufacturers a monopoly of our home and colonial markets, there can be no apology for permitting the importation of foreign yarn and cloth, either into Britain, or into its dependencies. But this ruinous practice has obtained the sanction of our government for many years; and our markets, both at home, and in our colonies abroad, have been frequently glutted with the linen manufac-

tures

tures of Germany and Russia, to the great prejudice of the people in Scotland.

Dr. Skene Keith, in his Survey of Aberdeenshire, (p. 587,) informs us, that the "linen manufacture, "strictly so called, has of late years, varied consider- "ably in its amount.—In 1808, the most favourable "year for a considerable time past, the quantity ma- "nufactured was above 300,000 yards. By the offi- "cial report, the quantity manufactured in 1808, was "314,556 yards, worth £31,000 In 1809, it fell to "102,297 yards, worth L.10,000; and in 1810, it rose "to 153,336 yards, worth L.14,000 sterling."—The ingenious and learned writer of the report ascribes the prosperity of this manufacture in the year 1808, to Buonaparte's edicts prohibiting the exportation of any manufactures of flax or hemp; and the decline, in the two subsequent years, he attributes to the revocation of these decrees. The remedy he points out, is, to adopt a prohibitory system on our part; and he emphatically remarks, that "it is very impolitic in our "public ministers to permit the importation of the "manufactures of linen from those countries in which "the manufactures of Britain are confiscated and "burnt*."

* The author recollects, that amongst Mr. Pitt's wise acts, it was ordered, that smuggled gin, when seized, should be thrown into the tide, by way of checking the contraband trade from Flushing. This was exactly what the smugglers wished, as the destruction of so much spirits, which at all events was lost to them when in the hands of the officers of the revenue, left the market

Cotton Manufacture.—The manufacture of cotton has become an object of the greatest importance to Britain, as it consumes the produce of her colonies, and gives employment to many thousand people. There may be an objection to any nation's manufacturing the produce of foreign countries in preference to its own; but our colonial settlements are considered as the offspring of the mother state, which ought to be fostered and encouraged. Whether this be a just view of the subject, or otherwise, it is not our duty to investigate; and it answers our purpose sufficiently, to adopt the commonly received opinions of mankind, by allowing, that Great Britain and her colonies are mutually benefited by their intercourse. The introduction of the cotton manufacture in Aberdeen took place in 1779, by Messrs Gordon, Barron, & Co. who solely carried it on for about 20 years; but it has since widely spread over the country, and is now, when united in all its parts, the most extensive branch of manufacture in the town. Several new companies have been established within these twelve years, and a great number

market *bare*, so that they found a readier sale in the country, at a higher price than formerly. Several hundred ankers were staved at Aberdeen, in consequence of this absurd measure. Tobacco, when seized and condemned, was burned in a kiln, and the ashes sold for behoof of the revenue. Buonaparte's burning system is not more ridiculous than our own of that period; and it is probable, that when our manufactures shall be again received on the continent, the demand will be greatly increased in consequence of that consumption by fire which the irritable disposition of our enemy has so foolishly induced.

number of men, women, and children, are employed in the city and neighbourhood. The most considerable house in this manufacture, with the exception of the original company, is Messrs Forbes, Low, and Company, who have erected a large work, with two steam-engines, close by the Dee, and within the suburbs of the town. There are about 600 persons employed in this manufactory; and besides spinning yarn, and weaving it into cloth, they make sewing-threads of an excellent quality. The first established company, whose works are situated on the banks of the Don, have a printfield, bleachfield, and two cotton-mills. They have brought the art of printing to great perfection. Their colours are fixed and brilliant; and that particular species of goods called Shawls, has acquired a high reputation in England, for colour and quality.

It has been often said, that the genius of the people on the east coast of Scotland, is better adapted for conducting the linen than the cotton manufacture, which they ought not to attempt, but to leave entirely to the inhabitants of the west. The success of the Aberdeen cotton manufacturers, however, fully contradicts this opinion: and there is no physical cause existing, to prevent them from carrying on that manufacture with as great advantage in Aberdeen, as it possibly can be done in Glasgow and Paisley.

Aberdeen, from its local situation, possesses every facility for carrying on all those branches of manufacture which are common to Scotland. Accordingly we find almost every variety of manufacture established

here, which the invention of the people can suggest. It would be tedious, and perhaps uninteresting, to enter minutely into the history of every branch: we shall therefore only slightly notice them.

Breweries.—*Gilcomston* brewery is the oldest, and was established in the year 1767. The average quantity brewed for the last three years may be stated at 4500 barrels of strong beer and porter, and 3000 barrels of table beer, per annum.

Devanha brewery was established in 1807. It is situated on the banks of the Dee, about a mile from the town. This work is the most extensive in the north of Scotland, and its porter has acquired great celebrity.

Old Town brewery, belonging to Messrs Irvine and Company, may be ranked next in point of magnitude; and the quantity they brew, may be stated at 2000 barrels of porter and strong ale, and 1500 barrels of table beer annually. The porter and strong ale of this brewery, are also of a superior quality. There are several other breweries in Aberdeen and its vicinity; and altogether, the quantity they brew, may be estimated at 22,700 barrels of porter, strong ale, and table beer.

Iron Foundries.—A work of this kind was first attempted in Aberdeen about 60 years ago, but was soon after laid aside, owing to the difficulty of procuring materials of a proper quality, and the uncertainty of obtaining a regular supply. Those concerned, having

having placed their principal dependance on the importation of old metal from Holland, and which could be manufactured only into coarse articles. About the year 1789, another foundry was begun under nearly the same disadvantages, and attended with no better success: for although iron-mines were wrought in the south of Scotland, they were almost exclusively appropriated to the use of the Carron company, which wished to monopolise the manufacture. A few years afterwards, however, more mines were opened by different proprietors, and pig-iron could be easily obtained. A work was erected at Grandholm-mills about the year 1797; another in the town, in 1804: and one since at Ferry-hill. These works manufacture most kinds of articles connected with agriculture, machinery, and domestic purposes.

Inkle Manufacture.—This institution is carried on under the name of the *Aberdeen Tape Company*. "Its linen tapes are equal in quality to those "of any manufactory in Britain. Formerly, the "tapes used in this country, were made in Holland; "but are now made in greater perfection in this city: "and in the present state of Europe, the importation "of foreign tapes, as well as all linen cloth, ought to "be prohibited*."

Shipbuilding.—This business is carried on to considerable extent in Aberdeen. Large vessels calcu-

 lated

* Aberdeenshire Survey, 586.

lated for the West India, Mediterranean, American, and Baltic trade, and also for the transport service, have been built at Aberdeen. A number of carpenters are employed in this trade, and in repairing ships and boats of all descriptions. When the harbour improvements are completed, it is to be expected, that the business of shipbuilding will be greatly extended, as the docks will admit vessels of large dimensions, and afford every facility to this valuable and important trade, on which depends our maritime greatness. Rope works are a necessary consequence of shipbuilding, and there are several at Aberdeen, which have been successfully carried on for many years. A manufacture of sailcloth has been established for above twenty years; and although it has not been carried to much extent, yet this branch, so necessary to a trading nation, may be easily increased, as every conveniency for such a manufacture may be found at Aberdeen.

A straw-hat manufactory has been for some time carried on. A *Quill*—a *Nail*—and even a *Pin* manufactory, may be enumerated among the different branches conducted at Aberdeen. Three paper-mills have been erected within a few miles of the town, which employ a considerable number of people, and they all make paper of the best quality both for the use of the printer and the counting-house.

Brick and Tyle Manufactories.—There are three works of this kind at Aberdeen, and they make about 100,000 tyles, and about 1,500,000 bricks each, yearly.

ly. The work at Clay-hills was the first establishment: that at Brick Kilns, Old Aberdeen, the next; —and lastly, the work at Seatongate, Old Aberdeen.

Various branches of manufacture, besides those enumerated here, are carried on in Aberdeen; but they are all common to the rest of Scotland, and need not therefore be particularly specified.

COMMERCE.—As a commercial town, Aberdeen is the second, in point of rank, on the east coast of Scotland. It is particularly well situated for carrying on trade with the northern states of Europe, and it enjoys part of the American and West Indian commerce. Within the limits of the Aberdeen custom-house, there were thirty vessels employed in foreign trade, in the year 1712, in which were exported,

1. Oatmeal, bear, pease, and malt	4132	quarters.
2. Cod, and ling fish - -	815	barrels.
3. Herrings - - - -	228	do.
4. Pork - - - -	360	do.
5. Hogslard - - - -	10	casks.
6. Stockings, and woollen cloths	158	trusses.
7. Tobacco - - - -	17	hogshds.
8. Lead - - - -	888	bars.
9. Coals - - - -	10	chaldns.

Since the period of the union, the commerce of Aberdeen has greatly increased; and when the harbour improvements are completed, it will no doubt be much augmented. In the year 1788, the number of ships in foreign trade, was 63; tonnage, 4964; men, 319;

319 ; coasting—ships, 93 ; tonnage, 5520 ; men, 396 : fisheries—ships, 13 ; tonnage, 1336 ; men, 202 :—Total—168 vcssels ; 11,720 tons ; 917 men.

In Aberdeen alone, in 1810, there were belonging to merchants and shipowners—150 ships ; tonnage, 17,131 ; men, 932.

In 1794, the trade of Aberdeen amounted to L.443,460 sterling, according to the estimate made out for charging the municipal taxes ; but the amount is now more than double that sum : and it is well known, that the calculations for such purposes, are far from being accurate. The extent of the trade of this port may, with more truth, be estimated at about L.1,200,000 annually.

The principal articles of import are,

Wheat, and wheat-flour—quarters, average	4000
Barley do. do. - - - -	3500
Rum—gallons - - - -	18,000
Aquavitæ, or whisky—do. - -	12,000
Gin, or Geneva—do. - - -	5000
Brandy—do. - - - -	2000
French wine—do. - - -	1100
Portuguese, or Spanish do. - -	42,000
English coals—chaldrons - -	17,000
Scotch coals—tons - - -	6000
Wool—cwt. - - - -	5000
Salt—bushels - - - -	24,000
Tobacco and snuff—lbs. above -	200,000
Flax—cwt. - - -	27,000

Exports.

Exports.

Oats, or meal, from Buchan and Strathboggie—bolls - - - -	18,000
Bear, or bigg—do. - - -	5000
Salmon—barrels - - -	2000
Cod, ling, &c. from Aberdeen -	4000
Do. Peterhead and Buchan coast -	4000
Stockings and woollen, worth -	L.80,000
Cotton, variable, perhaps -	- L.200,000
Linens and threads - -	- L.100,000
Stones, to the amount of -	- L.40,000

The following table will shew the average amount of ships—their tonnage—and number of men employed in the trade of Aberdeen for five years preceding 1801;—the particular amount of that year—the average from that period, to January 1811—and the amount for last year. These statements are extracted from the custom-house books, and copied by the author from the Survey of Aberdeenshire, by Dr. Skene Keith, whose accuracy is well known, and whose work is altogether a valuable record of every thing important in this district, either in regard to agriculture, manufactures, or commerce.

	Ships.	*Tons.*	*Men.*
Average of five years,			
Foreign imports,	74	7,298	443
Coasting do	996	48,779	3999
Average of imports,	1040	56,077	4442

Foreign

		Ships.	*Tons.*	*Men.*
	Foreign exports,	44	4,611	296
	Coasting do.	752	34,440	2,999
	Average exports,	796	30,051	3295
1801	Foreign imports,	109	11,746	678
	Coasting do.	1,052	63,961	4,236
	Total imports in 1801,	1,161	75,707	4,914
	Foreign exports, do.	62	7,240	424
	Coasting do.	741	37,878	3,144
	Total exports in 1801,	803	45,118	3,568
From 1802 to 1811 inclusive.				
	Average Foreign imports,	69	8,674	559
	Coasting do.	888	59,243	4,004
	Average of 10 years,	957	67,917	4,563
	Foreign exports, do.	58	8,570	547
	Coasting do.	738	46,787	3,407
	Total exports,	766	55,357	3,954
From 1810 to January 1811.				
	Foreign imports,	63	9,017	646
	Coasting do.	1,100	78,676	4,851
	Total imports of last year,	1,163	87,693	5,497

Foreign

	Ships.	*Tons.*	*Men.*
Foreign exports do	81	13,424	895
Coasting do.	730	44,798	3,218
Total exports of last year,	811	58,122	4,113

Of late years, it has been made a question, whether this country is benefited by its foreign trade: and Mr. Spence has exhausted much ingenuity in endeavouring to shew that Britain is independent of commerce.—The writer of these pages had also some share of the discussion: but although he entirely coincides in opinion with his friend, Mr. Spence, and is fully convinced that the wealth and prosperity of these kingdoms do not depend upon their foreign commerce, yet he would not advise the people of Aberdeen to burn their ships, and become agriculturists, unless they were certain that all the shipowners in Britain would follow their example.

The resources of a great nation are founded on her agriculture and internal industry, and not on her foreign relations, which are liable to every change that may result from accident, or the caprice of invidious and unfriendly powers. To have said only a few years ago, that Britain could have defied the united efforts of all Europe to crush her—and, although deprived of the commerce of the continent—could still maintain her greatness and grandeur, would have been deemed the hallucination of a theorist; yet such a state of things has nearly occured, and we still *exist*—not

not as a second-rate power, but—as a great, an opulent, and independent nation!

Our agricultural system, connected with our fisheries and manufacturing industry, has raised us to a situation that needs not the support of foreign commerce, but is founded on a productive soil, and those internal exertions which can convert the riches within our country into every thing requisite for our comfort and happiness. We have therefore nothing to dread from the hostility of the world; and although the island of Great Britain should be surrounded with a wall of brass, our strength, opulence and prosperity, would remain undiminished.

Fisheries.—One great source of our national wealth arises from our fisheries, which are inexhaustible. This "sea-girt island" derives advantages from the ocean, unknown to continental states. It is calculated, that our agriculturists raise subsistence for nearly five times their own number; in the same proportion, it may be said, the fishermen contribute to the support of the society. With an improved system of cultivation, and the proper direction of our energies to the fishing trade, the population and wealth of this country may be increased beyond our most sanguine expectations. The acute and ingenious Mr. Spence supposes, that our agricultural resources may be made adequate to the maintenance of sixty millions of people;—our fisheries may be made equally productive; or, in fact, they may be carried to any extent we please, as the stores of the ocean are boundless, and

afford

afford a mine of wealth that is open to unlimited industry.—" Food," says Dr. Smith, " not only con-
" stitutes the principal part of the riches of the world,
" but it is the *abundance* of food which gives the prin-
" cipal of their value to many other sorts of riches*."

The fishing trade of Aberdeen may be arranged in three classes, viz. the *salmon*—the *white-fishing*—and the *whale-fishing*.

The salmon fishings of Aberdeen on the Dee and Don, have been long celebrated for the abundance and quality of the fish they produced. In 1798, which was a favourable year, the quantity of salmon caught in Dee, was estimated at 1890½ barrels of four cwt. each; and on Don, the same year, at 1667 barrels. In the year 1804, which was extremely unfavourable, Dee produced only 652¼; and Don, 349 barrels.

Formerly, the salmon caught in the rivers of Scotland, were salted, packed in barrels, and exported, particularly to the south of Europe, and the states on the shores of the Mediterranean. But Mr. Dempster, of Dunnichen, in the county of Angus, having suggested to Mr. Richardson in Perth, who was extensively engaged in salmon fishings, the probability that ice would preserve salmon fresh until they should reach the London market, the experiment was tried, and found fully to answer Mr. Dempster's expectations. —Since that time (from 25 to 30 years ago), the value of salmon fishings has risen five-fold.

* Wealth of Nations, b. i. chap. i.

White Fishing consists in catching haddocks, cod, ling, turbot, hallibut, &c. A new town has been erected by the magistrates of Aberdeen for the accommodation of the fishermen at Footdee. This town is judiciously laid out, and the houses are good and commodious. It is the most useful, though not the most splendid work in which the magistrates have ever been engaged. The city of Aberdeen, however, is supplied with white fish from the neighbouring villages. Findon haddocks are well known, and are esteemed a great delicacy for their delicious taste and flavour. They are cured with the smoke of turf, or peat earth, and brought to the market frequently within twelve hours after they have been taken out of the sea. Many hundred dozens are annually sent to Edinburgh and London, and not a few to America. Findon is a small village in the county of Kincardine, about five miles south of Aberdeen; and certainly the haddocks cured there are superior in flavour and taste to any other, which is attributed to the nature of the turf used in smoking them. Lobsters, crabs, and other shell-fish are also brought to the Aberdeen market in considerable quantities; and altogether, this city is as well, or better supplied with the different kinds of fish which the German ocean produces, than perhaps any other town in Britain. Were a small part of the capital of the merchants of Aberdeen applied to the deep-sea fishing, it might become a trade of the greatest value to themselves, and to this part of the country.

Whale Fishing.—As oil is an indispensable necessary of

of life, whether for the purpose of giving light, or as an ingredient in the manufacture of soap, the whale-fishing is an object of the highest national importance. During the last seven years, the *four* whale ships belonging to Aberdeen, have produced 248 whales; 3396 tons of oil; and 150 tons of fins; which may be estimated at L.140,000 sterling value, or at L.20,000 a-year.

The importance of this species of fishing, both to the individuals concerned, and to the country at large, is so obvious, that it is astonishing the citizens of Aberdeen, who are in general extremely enterprising, should have directed so little of their capital and attention to so profitable a business. It is with pleasure, however, that the author can record, that five or six additional ships are in a state of preparation for the Greenland fishery next year; and he earnestly wishes their success may reward the owners, and stimulate others to extend this lucrative branch of trade.

Banks and *Banking*.—About the middle of last century an attempt was made to establish a bank in Aberdeen, which did not succeed; but on the 1st of January 1767, the present *Aberdeen Bank* commenced under more favourable circumstances. The capital subscribed, amounted to L.72,000 sterling; and among the partners of this company may be included the names of some of the first noblemen and gentlemen in the north of Scotland. A share of the copartnery stock was fixed at £500; and no one person was allowed to subscribe for more than four shares,

which are declared to be transferable. A governor, and eighteen directors, of whom four are constituted a quorum, were chosen to conduct the affairs of this company, which has greatly prospered.

About twenty-three years ago, the *Commercial Bank* was established by several merchants in Aberdeen, which has also succeeded by good management, to increase its capital; and it may be now considered one of the most substantial establishments of the kind in Scotland. There is also a branch of the *Bank of Scotland* in Aberdeen, which does business to a considerable amount.

The practice of banking is pretty well known in Scotland; but few understand the theory or principles on which it is founded. Banks of deposit always receive value before they pledge their credit, by issuing accompts, checks, or notes, such as the bank of Amsterdam; but in Scotland, banks not only receive money in deposit, for which they allow interest; or, in other words, borrow money, from the richer and more opulent part of the society; but they issue *paper* for *paper*, staking their own credit against that of their customers. For example, if a person shall go into a banking-office with a hundred guineas, he will receive a receipt for the amount bearing interest; or, if in conjunction with another man, he will draw a bill at two or three months date—the one being the acceptor, and the other, the drawer and indorser—he will receive the bank's notes for it, *minus* the interest during the currency of the bill, which he has to pay in full when due. The notes of the bank are payable on demand,

but

but bear no interest; hence they produce an advantage to the bank in proportion to the time they may remain in circulation, and this constitutes a great part of the profits of the business. Scotch banks also purchase bills on London at a shorter date than they sell them, which is another source of profit; and they likewise gain something by the interest on their discounts.

As the whole system of Scotch banking depends upon the degree of confidence which subsists between the bank and its customers, who thus exchange their paper—the one giving notes bearing no interest, and the other's bills bearing interest—the advantage is altogether in favour of the bank, as both parties are equally convinced of the *solidity* of their paper, otherwise their transactions would not take place.

According to the law of Scotland, any man, or set of men, may establish a bank; and it may be very successful, if he or they shall be able to command a little credit in London. Capital is not at all requisite, at least, any farther than necessary to fit up a room, with a desk and a counter—to procure an engraved plate for casting off notes—and to purchase pens, ink, and paper.—These constitute the whole apparatus of a bank paper manufactory, which may do business to any extent with the assistance of the two emphatic monosyllables, "*The Bank*," painted in legible characters on the door.

It may appear somewhat surprising to those who are unacquainted with the mystery of banking, to say, that the business may be carried on, and may even turn out very profitable, without any real capital invested by

the partners or concerns. But the author knows an instance of a company that embarked in the trade, with only nine thousand pounds of capital, which was lost by mismanagement in the course of two years; but the bank had one hundred thousand pounds borrowed at four per cent. from the country, which was invested in the public funds. On the capital of others, therefore, this bank was enabled to go on, as it could meet every demand that might reasonably be expected, by drafts on its agent in London, who was secured for his engagements by a power to sell stock, if necessary, to retire his acceptances. By better management, this bank now divides about twenty-five per cent.; but its responsibility at any time could not be doubted, as, by law, the whole fortunes of the partners of unchartered banks are, individually, liable for the engagements of the company.

That banks occasionally sustain some losses by bankruptcies, is apparent; but the calculation of loss on bills accepted, drawn, and indorsed, is about one to three hundred thousand; and, consequently, so very insignificant, that deficiencies of payments cannot materially affect the business, if managed with common prudence. But as the art of the banker, or person who takes the active department, consists in prying into the affairs of his customers, he generally learns as much through the envy and malevolence of his neighbours, as enables him to guard against losses. A naturally inquisitive temper, sharpened by constant practice, and a dull plodding genius, are invaluable qualifications for a country banker, especially if he can

assume

assume a haughty supercilious air, and impress the public with the opinion that he possesses shrewdness and discernment*.

Canal.

* Douglas, in his Description of the East Coast (p. 141.), mentions, that after the establishment of a branch of the Thistle Bank at Aberdeen, "an uncommon scarcity of specie was uni-"versally felt and complained of: one might have travelled half "a day before he could have silver for a twenty shillings note. "Matters came to that pass, that poor people were obliged to "*pay a premium*, or *spend money*, to procure change to purchase "necessaries for their families." The abundance of notes at that time, induced by granting cash accounts, and discounting bills, entirely supplied the place of the coin, and it accordingly disappeared. The same effect must invariably follow the same cause; and in London, of late, similar circumstances have occurred, the over-issues of the Bank of England having rendered its paper so abundant, that, like every other commodity similarly situated, it has fallen in value, or, in other words, a guinea in gold is commensurate to about 26 shillings in paper.

Although the precious metals are not more a standard of value than paper, being only, when in the state of coin, a representative of value; yet the scarcity of the one, or what is the same thing, the abundance of the other, must destroy their exact balance, and render their separation unavoidable. While bank notes are convertible into specie for the exact amount they bear on the face of them, their value as a circulating medium, in relation to commodities, is equal to that of gold; but when they represent nothing except an ideal property supposed to exist in the bank, or, in other words, the bonds, bills, and debts owing to the bank, either by individuals or by the public, a difference of value must arise between such notes, and gold, which is an universal representative of value. Bank of England notes at present, are in the same situation as 3 per cent. stock, and will fluctuate in price from the same causes which influence the public funds. It is

evident

Canal.—This useful work extends from the harbour of Aberdeen to the borough of Inverury, including the space of 18½ miles. Its summit level at Stoneywood,

evident that at present, 100 guineas in specie, possess more command over the necessaries of life than 105 one pound bank notes: hence it is undeniable, that either the gold has risen, or the notes have fallen in price. That the notes are depreciated, is pretty certain, because the price of gold has not advanced in other nations; at the same time, the rate of exchange between this country and foreign states, has risen in proportion to the difference between the price of gold, and bank notes.

The fact is apparent: but it is of much less importance to the people of Britain than they generally imagine. Certain classes of society must no doubt suffer a material injury from the depreciation of bank paper. All those who have property in the funds—all annuitants, and those who have lent money on interest, are greatly injured, as the notes they receive, have lost about 25 per cent. of their former power over the necessaries of life, and their incomes are accordingly diminished in that ratio. But to the nation at large, it is of little consequence what may be the depreciation of bank paper, as the value of *labour*, and hence of every commodity, must rise in proportion to its relative diminution. Neither gold nor paper, under any shape, can form a *standard* of *value*. They are merely representatives, and perform the same duty in the operations of society, as counters do in a game of cards. They serve as a medium to represent value; and it is a matter of indifference whether a guinea shall stand as an equivalent for 21 days labour, or only for 10½ days. It will possess the same power over the products of industry, in the one case, as in the other; as not only coin, but every other commodity, must be appreciated according to the *labour* it requires to obtain it.

If the reader wishes to have farther information relative to banks and banking, he may consult the Edinburgh Encyclopædia, article "BANK," which was drawn up by the author.

is 168 feet above the low-water mark in the harbour of Aberdeen. The principal works constructed upon the canal are, 17 locks; five aqueduct bridges over considerable streams of water; 56 accommodation bridges; 20 culverts for conveying smaller streams from the higher grounds under the canal; besides basons at Port Elphinston, at the top of the canal, at bridge of Dyce, and Kintore; and a temporary bason at Aberdeen, with other pieces of masonry of less importance.

This canal was opened in 1807, and the tonnage conveyed during the last three years, is as follows:

	bolls of lime.	*bolls of coals.*	*tons of dung.*	*other articles, tons.*
1808	19,423	4335	468	5144
1809	25,673	5521	528	2526
1810	25,525	6192	736	1950
	70,621	16,048	1732	9620

The value of this work, both to the subscribers and the country is daily increasing: and the fly-boats for 1808, produced £105; for 1809, L.186; for 1810, L.231; and for the present year, they are let at L.348 sterling.

The expence of erecting the canal previously to the 1st of December, 1808, amounted to L.43,895 18s. 10d. sterling, as appears by the following statement.

For surveys, plans, and acts of parliament - - -	L.2154	10	4
Law expences - - -	251	10	0
Carried forward,	L.2406	0	4

Brought

Brought forward,	L.2406	0	4
Lands, and land-rents, and damages to grounds - - -	2134	3	8
The execution of the earthen part of the canal, including boats and utensils - - -	19,917	0	1
Constructing 17 locks, five aqueduct, and 56 accommodation bridges, 20 culverts, and other works of masonry, including superintendence, management, and incidental expences - - -	19,438	14	9
December 31, 1808.—Total expenditure at this date -	L.43,895	18	10

The money raised for this erection has been produced by the sale of shares, exclusive of L.17,259 8s. 10d. sterling, still owing to individuals, as may be seen by the following statement.

By the first act of parliament in 1796, the company were authorised to raise among themselves, in shares of L.50 each, the sum of L.20,000. But of this sum there could only be raised by the partners, to the amount of	L.17,750		
Less, by one partner deficient in calls -	35	17,715	0 0
Carried forward,		L.17,715	0 0

Brought

Brought forward,	L.17,715	0	0
This money being expended on the works of the canal, the company obtained another act in 1801, authorising them to raise, by sale of new shares of L.20 each (preferable to shares under the first act), a further sum of L.20,000. But as the act was worded, they could only get sold at a public roup 1000 new shares, which produced in cumulo - - -	11,421	10	0
	L.29,136	10	0
This sum has been super-expended under the direction of the committee, and has been contributed by, and still remains due to individuals	L.14,759	8	10
Besides progressive interest on the advances, equal to - -	2500	0	0
	L.17,259	8	10

The canal was originally only 17 feet wide, by three feet deep; but by subsequent operations, it has been made from 21 to 23 feet wide, and about three feet ten inches deep.

A chairman, and fourteen gentlemen of the town and county, are a committee of management: and there is no doubt, but ultimately this work will prove advantageous to the proprietors, as well as highly beneficial to the country.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER VII.

LITERATURE AND THE ARTS.

* * * *

IN literature and the arts, Aberdeen has not been without a portion of its natives who have done honour to the place of their birth.

Of the men of learning and genius who have studied or taught in either King's or Marischal College, were we to give but even abbreviated notices, it would occupy a space far beyond the limits which must be unavoidably assigned to such a department in a work of this description. In times comparatively modern, many have been sent from these seminaries, in various capacities, to different quarters of the globe, whose genius and intelligence, in every branch of science, would do honour to any age or country. Merely to name a Blackwell and a Campbell, who occupied, in succession, the Principal's chair in Marischal College, the late Principal John Chalmers, Dr. Reid, the venerable and learned Professor Thomas Gordon, his grandson, Professor Scott, Dr. Dunbar, and Mr. John Leslie, Greek professor, all of King's College, and to add to these that of Duncan, Fordyce, and

Gerard, with those of Skene, senior and junior, as well as the elder and younger Beatties,—were only to call to the recollection of those who knew the men, and have read such of their works as have been published, the talents they possessed, and those energies of character by which each was peculiarly distinguished. About 50 years since, most of these gentlemen were members of a literary and philosophical society, who held regular meetings, in which subjects in the various departments of science were critically discussed.

Of the gentlemen who at present so worthily fill the different offices, as professors in either college, it is more the province of the historian of an after-period to record that merit which, in them, is so justly acknowledged. We cannot, however, avoid retracing our steps, by going a little back to record some particulars of that family, to whom was allotted no slender portion of that genius and ardour for the improvement of science, which distinguish the name of GREGORY. With them genius, and a love of science, appears to have been a species of entailed inheritance.

James Gregory, a celebrated mathematician, was born in Aberdeen, in 1638. He discovered an early genius for mathematics, which he cultivated with ardour in the Marischal College. In his "*Optica Promota*," &c. which he published in quarto, in 1663, he announced the invention of the reflecting telescope, which spread his fame all over Europe. He soon after visited Italy, and resided some years at Padua, where he published his "*Vera circuli, et Hyperbola Quadratura*," &c., in which appeared an account of a discovery

discovery of an infinitely converging series for the areas of the circle and hyperbola, and the mode of computing them. He was, after his return to England, chosen a fellow of the Royal Society, and engaged with Huygens in a controversy on the subject of his treatise on the quadrature of the circle. In 1668, he was chosen professor of mathematics in the university of St. Andrew's.

He had an amicable controversy with Newton concerning the reflecting telescope, in which he threw out the idea of a burning concave mirror, which came into universal repute. In 1674, he became professor of mathematics at Edinburgh, where he died in the year following.—His treatise on Optics was translated into English by Dr. Disaguliers; and several of his papers are in the Philosophical Transactions.

David Gregory, nephew to the mathematician, was born in Aberdeen, in 1661, and also eminently distinguished for his genius, and profound studies in mathematics. He completed his education at Edinburgh, where his merit recommended him to fill the mathematical chair in that university. By the recommendation of Newton, he was chosen a member of the Royal Society, and elected Savilian professor of astronomy at Oxford. He published several works of high reputation on mathematics, and subjects connected with that science, and, in 1703, a splendid edition of Euclid's works in folio. Dr. Gregory died in 1710. His brother, James, became professor of mathematics at Edinburgh, which situation he held 33 years. His other brother, Charles, was professor of mathematics at St.

Andrew's 32 years, and was succeeded by his son David, who published a system of arithmetic and algebra in Latin. He died in 1763.

Dr. *John Gregory*, physician, was born in 1724, at Aberdeen, where his father, Dr. James Gregory, was professor of medicine in King's College. He studied at Aberdeen, and afterwards at Edinburgh and Leyden. In 1745, he obtained the degree of M. D., and became professor of philosophy at Aberdeen, which he afterwards exchanged in 1749, for that of physic. About 1751, he left Aberdeen, and settled in London, where he was chosen a fellow of the Royal Society. He practised subsequently at Aberdeen, and was afterwards chosen professor of medicine in the university of Edinburgh, in 1766, where he died in 1773. His works are, the Duties and Offices of a Physician—Elements of the Practice of Physic—and a Father's Legacy to his Daughters.

His family were all born in Aberdeen; and his son, Dr. James Gregory, an eminent physician and professor in the university of Edinburgh, now living, is, in his character and works, well known to the learned world.

In any observations which might occur on the subject of the Arts, it were unpardonable to pass over the name of GIBBS, from whose plan the West Church of this city was built, by Mr. Wyllie, an architect from Edinburgh, and finished about the year 1755 or 56. The dressing of granite at that period, was not brought to that facility in working, and dexterity in finish, which

which it has attained within the last twenty years; and to this it may have been owing, that the basement course only of this elegant church has been built of this beautiful stone, so much and so justly admired, and not liable to decay from the influence of weather. The superstructure is of free-stone, brought in blocks from the firth of Forth, at a considerable expence, although we had quarries of a very superior stone, in a manner just at our door. The effect of a building of granite over that of free-stone, may be seen in a house in Broad-street, built about the year 1748, for Mr. Cruickshank, a respectable Russian merchant, and a native of Aberdeen. The front towards Broad-street, after a very elegant design, was erected of free-stone, on which were worked appropriate mouldings, with a handsome cornice and ballustrade. The front to Guestrow is of dressed granite. In the course of 50 years, the free-stone front, by the influence of the weather, was, in the balustrade, and all the projecting mouldings, reduced to a hideous skeleton, so that it became necessary that all the projections should be chisseled off—the balustrade taken down, and replaced with a railing of cast-iron—the whole front of the shop-floor repaired with granite—and the upper part painted, to prevent farther injury from the weather. All this was done at a considerable expence, but to the utter destruction of the original beautiful design and finish, while the granite front to Guestrow, remains in all its primitive beauty and simple elegance.

James Gibbs, architect, was born in Aberdeen, in

1638, and studied his art in Italy. His father was a catholic, and was proprietor of Footdees-myre, where he had a house which was long known by the name of the *White House in the Links*, and afterwards used as a mason-lodge, previous to the building of the New Inn, by the mason society.

The sour presbyterians of Mr. Gibbs' time, used to spur on the idle boys of the town to annoy the old gentleman in his premises. He was, it seems, a man of a considerable portion of humour; and having provided two dogs to keep the rabble who occasionally disturbed him at a distance, it is said, he good-naturedly took his revenge, by inscribing on the collar of one, *Luther*, and on the other, *Calvin*. Mr. Gibbs acquired so much reputation as an architect in London, about the year 1720, that he was very generally employed. In 1721, he gave the design for St. Martin's church in the Fields, which was finished in five years, and cost thirty thousand pounds. He was the architect also of St. Mary's in the Strand; of the new church at Derby; the new building at King's College, Cambridge, as well as the senate-house there. He also gave the design for, and built the famous Ratcliffe Library at Oxford, at the opening of which he was complimented by the university with the degree of Master of Arts. He was employed in many other public and private buildings. —Horace Walpole, Lord Orford, in his life of Gibbs, has been rather fastidiously critical on the subject of the architect's taste.—" His praise," says his lordship, " was fidelity to rules; his failing—want of grace:" but the best proof of his genius and taste are to be found.

found in his numerous works, which were much commended by many who were esteemed very competent judges.

After having acquired reputation and wealth, he died in 1754, leaving his books, drawings, and prints, to the Ratcliffe Library; besides legacies to his friends, and to public charities.

The Cross, in Castle-street, although no part of it bears any resemblance to that emblem of our religion, is a very beautiful and singular production in stone-masonry. All its parts, cut in high relief, are finished in a superior style; and the portraits of the ten sovereigns from James I. to James VII. bear a strong resemblance to the best pictures we have seen of these personages. The decorated pillar, with a Corinthian capital, which supports the unicorn in the centre, is remarkable for its elegance of design and execution. The date of its erection (supposed about 130 years since), is not exactly ascertained. It is said to have been erected by a stone mason in Old Rayne, or Huntly; and, whoever he was, does him infinite honour as a man of taste, and liberal instruction.——What is said of the inutility of this building in another part of this volume, related chiefly to its present situation, rendered inappropriate from the late improvements, and opening of new streets.

Of the architectural taste of the private buildings in Aberdeen, little is to be said in commendation. We seem, however, to be of late emerging from that chaos of distinguishable bad taste which predominated for the last thirty years, and which was subject to,

and recognized by no rule of architecture. The unnecessary high-pitched roof, and that preposterous deformity, a tympany, while it broke into the roof, and created a great expence, procured only a miserable chamber of a few feet square. These, and other absurdities, seem to be giving way to more fixed rules, governed by correct principles and good taste. It is the interest of every man who builds a house, whatever its expence or size may be, to obtain previously a good design from one who has studied architecture as a science. A good plan may cost a few pounds; but it may save many, besides the advantages gained by judicious contrivance, founded on the principles of reasonable economy.

ABERDEEN has not only to boast of Gibbs as a distinguished architect, but has a title to be eminently proud of her JAMESON, appropriately called the *Apelles of Scotland*, the pupil of Rubens, and fellow student with Vandyck, at Antwerp, under that great master.

George Jameson was the son of Andrew Jameson, and was born in Aberdeen in 1586. At what age he went abroad, or how long he continued there, is not known. After his return, he applied with indefatigable industry to portrait in oil, though he sometimes practised in miniature, and also in history and landscape. His largest portraits were generally somewhat less than life.

His excellence is said to consist in delicacy and softness, with a clear and beautiful colouring.—When king Charles visited Scotland in 1633, the magistrates of

of Edinburgh, knowing his majesty's taste, employed Jameson to make drawings of the Scotish monarchs; with which the king was so much pleased, that, enquiring for the painter, he sat to him, and rewarded him with a diamond ring from his own finger. It is observable, that Jameson always drew himself with his hat on, either in imitation of his master Rubens, or in having been indulged in that liberty by the king when he sat to him.

About the year 1620, Jameson returned to his native city, where he settled in the line of his profession. Here he married a lady of the name of *Isobella Toash*, by whom he had several sons and daughters. All his sons, it appears, died in early life. His only daughter, whose numerous descendants are now living, was *Mary*, who was thrice married: first, to Mr. Burnett, of Elrick, in the county of Aberdeen; afterwards, to James Gregory, the celebrated mathematician; and subsequently, to Mr. George Eddie, one of the magistrates of Aberdeen. By all these gentlemen she had children. Many of the descendants of the two first have numerous families in this county.

Mary seems to have inherited a portion of her father's genius. Several specimens of her needle-work remain, particularly Jephtha's rash vow: Susannah and the elders, &c. probably form a design of her father's; and in different copartments, which adorn the east end of St. Nicolas' Church, in this city, above the magistrates' gallery.—A list of Mr. Jameson's paintings, as far as collected, is annexed.

Though most of the considerable families in Scotland,

land are possessed of works by this master, the greatest collection of them is at Taymouth, the seat of the earl of Breadalbane:—Sir John Campbell, of Glenorchy, his lordship's ancestor, having been the chief and earliest patron of Jameson, who had attended that gentleman in his travels. In different gentlemen's houses in the county of Aberdeen, there are portraits painted by Jameson, as well as in the halls of Marischal and King's College: but the Sybils, said to be painted from Beauties of Old Aberdeen, do not justify the opinion that they were the productions of his pencil; although the Four Evangelists, which are also in the hall of King's College, bear strong marks of the manner of this excellent artist.

He died possessed of an easy fortune, which he left to his three daughters, two of whom were honourably married.—Mr. Thomson, of Portlethen, a descendant of Mary, above mentioned, had an original picture of her father, by himself. Mr. Thomson was grand-uncle to Mr. Carnegie, town-clerk of this city, in whose possession this picture now is.

Mr. Pennant, in his Tour through Scotland, 1772, says (but we know not on what authority), that Jameson having finished a whole length of Charles I. he expected the magistrates of Aberdeen would purchase it for their hall; but they offering him too inconsiderable a price, he sold it to a gentleman in the north of England.

Jameson had many scholars, particularly Michael Wright, a portrait-painter of considerable merit, and mentioned by Lord Orford as having gone from Scotland

land to London, where he was much employed by the nobility and gentry.

Though Jameson was little known in England, and, what is still more extraordinary, is not mentioned either in Pilkington's Biographical Dictionary of the Painters, or in the last edition of that work published by Fuseli—his character, as well as his works, were greatly esteemed in his own country. Arthur Johnston, the poet, addressed to him an elegant Latin epigram on the picture of the marchioness of Huntly, which may be seen in the works of that author, printed at Middleburgh in 1642. The picture itself is in the collection of the duke of Gordon; and in the hall of the Marischal College is the portrait of Arthur Johnston, also by Jameson. He died in Edinburgh in 1644, and was interred in the church-yard of the Greyfriars, but without any monument.

Mr. John Alexander, the grand-nephew of Mr. Jameson, seems to have been the only one of his descendants who possessed his genius for painting. He practised as a portrait-painter till a considerable time after the year 1730. Many of his paintings also are highly esteemed.

By his will, written with his own hand in July 1641, and breathing a spirit of much piety and benevolence, he provides kindly for his wife and children, and leaves many legacies to his relations and friends, particularly Lord Rothes, the king's picture a full length; and Mary with Martha in one piece. To William Murray he gives the medals in his coffer; makes a hand-

some

some provision for his natural daughter; and bestows liberally on the poor.

Mr. *Francis Peacock* was for the space of sixty years, the much respected teacher of dancing in Aberdeen. He had always a strong predilection for drawing, but never took a pencil in his hand to attempt any thing in colour, till he was about 40 years of age. He received his instructions in London, and particularly from Francis Cotes, who was esteemed a good artist, and died about the year 1770. Mr. Peacock copied with great delicacy and truth, and thereby greatly promoted his improvement in taking likenesses in miniature, which he painted at moderate prices. To a genius for music and painting, he united the unaffected manners of a gentleman. No man possessed a more nice sense of honour.

He assisted in the first formation of the weekly subscription concerts, and with great ability joined the band in the Orchestra, both on the violin and violoncello. Late in life he published a treatise on dancing, well written, and as well received by the public and the teachers of that part of genteel education.

Mr. Peacock died at the advanced age of eighty odds, leaving, ultimately, the residue of his fortune to purposes of public charity.

James Wales was a native of Banffshire, but settled in Aberdeen about thirty years since. He had been in a great manner self-taught, prompted by the ardour of genius to the practice of the art.

He

He was much patronized in Aberdeen by Mr. Francis Peacock, whose love of the art led him to encourage that in others, to which he felt in himself a constant stimulus. Mr. Wales's portrait of Mr. Peacock, being a strong likeness, and well painted, procured him a considerable share of business, chiefly in portraits of a small size, which he painted in oval on tin-plate, so low as half a-guinea and a guinea each. This afforded him but little advantage, and, of course, from such trivial resources, incumbered with small debts which he had not always the means of discharging, he left Aberdeen, and went to London, where he greatly improved, having a great portion of ready conception and aptitude, in availing himself of whatever he saw superior in the works of others, rendering it peculiarly his own, without the apparent labour of a mannerist. At London, he painted landscapes in the manner of Poussin, with fine effect, and attained great eminence in portrait.

He was, however, still left in circumstances considerably incumbered; and was encouraged to try for better fortune, and patronage arising from professional merit, in India. This he probably would have obtained, had he lived; for his improvement was rapid: what he painted there was much approved of by the best judges of the art in that country. He died (in what part of India we know not), about ten years since.

In an article connected with the arts, we should not be able to offer any reasonable apology to the public, if we omitted the name of Mr. *Byres*, of Tonley, a native

tive of Aberdeenshire, who, after about 40 years residence in Rome, retired to live on his estate in this county. In very early life, Mr. Byres studied at Rome. His classical taste and profound knowledge of whatever related to architecture, statuary, or painting, established his fame as a connoisseur, to whose judgment all the British resorting to Rome, as well as the learned and curious of other nations, were invariably in the habit of making constant appeal. As the intimate friend of Sir William Hamilton, the famous Portland vase, and indeed, the finest specimens of the art, sent by that intelligent gentleman into this country, came originally through the hands of Mr. Byres. In forming an opinion of the productions of the old masters, and appreciating their just value and distinctive excellence, the judgment of Mr. Byres, since his return to Britain, has been often resorted to, and his decisions acquiesced in with well-founded confidence. Of specimens in the arts in his own possession, we are ignorant; but whatever he has, *must be select* :—and, to a remarkable suavity of manners, he unites all the amiable qualities of a benevolent and worthy man.

In the course of these observations, we are naturally led to a notice of Mr. *John Moir*, a living artist, and nephew to Mr. Byres. Mr. Moir is the son of a clergyman (Dr. Moir, of Peterhead), and received part of his education in Aberdeen, where, at an early period, he was taught the rudiments of drawing. He went soon afterwards to Italy, where he studied at Rome with every advantage which could be obtained in that emporium of the arts, forming his judgment and taste on

on the best models of antiquity, and the works of the great masters of former times. On his return to Britain, he confined himself chiefly to landscape, studying nature with a sedulous and unremitting attention. Thi he did not in vain; but of late he has practised much as a portrait-painter, in which he has succeeded to a considerable degree of excellence. His portraits, in full length, of Captain Barclay, Mr. Niven Lumsden, and his head-size of Captain Adam Cumine, in the last Edinburgh exhibition, were, among others, justly remarked as fine specimens of this branch of the art, conveying, not merely strong likenesses, but a considerable trait of general manner and character. Mr. Moir has fixed his principal residence in Edinburgh, but usually spends several months annually in Aberdeen, where he has met with that encouragement to which his merit obviously entitles him. His copy of Dr. Dun, who left the munificent endowment for the grammar-school, from Jameson, in the town-hall of this city, is the finest fac-simile we have seen. It has all the force of expression and fine painting of Jameson's picture.

Messrs *Archibald, Alexander,* and *Andrew Robertson,* are all natives of Aberdeen, and the sons of Mr. William Robertson of Marischal Street. They all, at an early period, received the rudiments of the art of drawing, from teachers in this city; and, as kindred in genius, as well as in blood, they assisted greatly in the instruction of each other. Mr. Archibald, after studying in London for some time, went to New York;

and Mr. Alexander, after a similar course of study, followed his elder brother. They have met with such encouragement in that city, both in teaching and in painting portrait and landscape, as they had reason to expect from their several endowments and practice in the art. Mr. Andrew, the younger brother, after the tuition he had received at home, studied under Mr. Nasmyth at Edinburgh, and subsequently in London, where his progress in the different branches of the art was marked with much approbation by artists of the highest reputation, and particularly Mr. West, the president of the Royal Academy, whose picture he painted in large miniature, and from which a print, by Dawe, was taken in mezzotinto, which has much of the spirit and effect of the original picture.—Mr. Robertson's picture of the marquis of Huntly, from which an excellent print has been taken by Holl, has been much admired for its likeness and fine painting. This print has been also much approved of, and is in the possession of all Lord Huntly's friends.

The just celebrity which Mr. Robertson has obtained by his numerous works, is well known to the best judges of the art in the metropolis. With what reputation he painted the volunteer colonels of London, need not be told. Prints were taken from all these fine miniatures. In his exquisite miniatures of the royal family, and his large miniature of a beautiful Gipsey and her infant, in the character of a Madona and child, so much admired in the last exhibition at Somerset-house, he has shewn to what excellence an artist may arrive, who unites, with original genius,

genius, the closest application, and the most unremitting industry.

Mr. Robertson resides now constantly in London, devoted to the art he loves, at 33, Gerard-street, Soho.

We claim among the number of living artists and connoisseurs, as connected with Aberdeen, Mr. *James Irvine*, brother to Mr. Irvine of Drum. It is impossible not to perceive, that in some families, genius, and a taste for the arts, are hereditary qualities. Mr. Irvine spent the years of early life in Aberdeen, and was educated at Marischal College. After preliminary studies in this city, he went to London, and from thence to Rome. There he was gratified with a sight of whatever was excellent in a profession to which he had given many early proofs of a strong predilection. We are not sufficiently acquainted with the productions of his pencil, to give any particular account of them; but several of his portraits and designs are in this neighbourhood.

For some years past, his attention has been chiefly directed to the selection and purchase of pictures for sale: several fine specimens of which he has sent to London. He sold the two famous landscapes of Claude Lorraine—the temple of Apollo, and the landing of Æneas in Italy, from the Altieri palace at Rome, which Mr. Beckford, of Fonthill, purchased at 7000 guineas.

This species of commerce, for which he is so eminently qualified, engrosses at present, we believe, the greater part of his time and attention.

In like manner, and for the same reasons, we have a right to claim an interest in Mr. *Hugh Irvine,* son to Mr. Irvine of Drum, and nephew to Mr. James Irvine, the subject of the last article. This young gentleman, at an early period of life, manifested a strong inclination for the study of the art, and for several years his application has been unremitting. For some time he was the pupil of Mr. Renaigle of London, whose merit as an artist is well known; and he has long been a close student in landscape after Nature. In the Edinburgh exhibition his picture from Walter Scott's "Lay of the Last Minstrel," of Sir William of Deloraine crossing the Tweed in moon-light, on his approach to Melross Abbey, with appropriate scenery. was much noticed by connoisseurs. Mr. Irvine has lately painted views of several of the seats of the nobility and gentry of this county, and recently, a very beautiful view of Monymusk, the seat of Sir Archibald Grant, with the river Don in the fore-ground of the picture — *Benachee,* and other interesting objects in the distance. Some of these pictures have been engraved, and appear in the Rev. Dr. Skene Keith's Agricultural Report of Aberdeenshire. Indeed, from his genius and industry, this young artist affords reasonable ground to hope that he will obtain a distinguished rank in the line of his profession.

In a strict connection with the arts, the musical taste of a town, and its musical establishments, form, perhaps, a distinguishable feature, and, of course, merit notice.

At

At a time considerably remote, the records of the community mention "a sallary to the master of the "song school;" and this stipend is, in substance, continued, we believe, to the present day.

Aberdeen, however, for a period of 60 years, at least, could boast of a regular weekly subscription concert, through the winter. It was liberally supported by the nobility and gentry of the county, who, with the principal citizens, raised annually an ample sum for this establishment, which was conducted in a manner highly honourable to the taste of the town.

These concerts were managed by a president and directors chosen annually by the subscribers. They had occasionally as leaders on the violin, Oliveri, the elder Pinto, Thrustans, and others, to whom liberal salaries were paid. To these were joined a very powerful band of gentlemen of the town, who were aided by hired assistants, on different instruments, with, occasionally, a male or female singer, and these combined, formed a very respectable Orchestra. That Orchestra could not fail to be in considerable repute, in which the late Dr. John Gregory; Mr. George Skene, of Rubislaw; Mr. George Moir, of Scotstown; Dr. George Skene; Mr. George Walker; Colonel Knight Erskine; Mr. Fysher Smith Lyttleton; Mr. A. Tait; Mr. Robertson, of Foveran; Dr. Beattie; Mr. A. Annand; Mr. Davis; Mr. Barber; Mr. Ross; Sir William Forbes; Dr. Dauney; Mr. John and Mr. James Boyn; Mr. Peacock; the Rev. Mr. A. Smith; Mr. Thomson, of Banchory; and Mr. Andrew Robertson,

son, along with other names too tedious to enumerate, performed on different instruments their several parts. —Mr. A. Tait, Mr. Boyn, Dr. Dauney, and Mr. Ewen, were treasurers of *The Musical Society* in succession.

It is a subject of sincere regret, that, owing to the death of many of these gentlemen-performers, who rendered their services gratuitously, and the departure of others to distant parts, whose place it has not hitherto been possible to supply, this elegant entertainment has been for some years past given up.

We are, moreover, not without our apprehensions that the fashionable late hours of more modern times, may have had some influence on the discontinuance of these musical meetings, which afforded so much pleasure to many who are not now living, as well as to a considerable number who remain to regret that no such delightful and innocent source of amusement does honour, at present, to the town of Aberdeen. Let us, however, indulge a hope that circumstances may yet occur, favourable to its revival.

A very fine collection of music, an excellent organ, by Snetzler, a harpsichord, and, in short, a very complete set of instruments, the property of the Musical Society, are lodged in the library of Marischal College, to wait the re-establishment of subscription-concerts, on their former very respectable footing. A very good picture, supposed to be by one of the old Italian masters,—the subject, St. Cecilia at the organ, accompanied by angels, was presented to the Musical Society by Mr. Alexander, the painter, a descend-

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ant of George Jameson. It formerly hung over the folding-door in the hall of the society, where the weekly concerts were held, in Broad-street, and is now, with the other property of the society, kept in reserve, under the more immediate care of the librarian, in Marischal College. A golden lyre, ornamented with diamonds and rubies, presented to the society by the late Sir Archibald Grant, of Monymusk, to be worn by the president at all public meetings, is, at present, in the keeping of Mr. Ewen, the last treasurer. All the articles of property belonging to the society, are inventoried and recorded, so as to be forthcoming in due season.

As to the means of instruction in music, Mr. Ross, organist of St. Paul's chapel, has long taught the harpsichord and piano-forte with great approbation, and is well known to the musical world, as a composer of distinguished merit.—We cannot avoid, on this occasion, congratulating the public on the recent acquisition made in aid of this elegant branch of education, by the establishment of Mr. Knott, as a professional teacher of *Vocal Music* in this city. He possesses a powerful and melodious voice, which, joined to a considerable portion of musical science, peculiarly qualify him for that situation to which he has been called by the choice of the magistrates and council, and the approbation of the public. His excellent method of teaching, and unremitting application, while they prove highly beneficial to his pupils, do very great credit to himself.

CATA-

CATALOGUE of some of the works of GEORGE JAMESON, Painter.

JAMESON, his wife, and son.—In the possession of Sir George Chalmers, painter, married to Jameson's great-great-grand-daughter.

Jameson in his painting-room, which is adorned with pictures of Charles I. and his queen; Jameson's own wife; another head; two sea-views; Perseus and Andromeda.—In the possession of the earl of Findlater, at Banff Castle.

Jameson, a single figure, with a miniature in his hand, supposed his wife's picture—In the possession of William Carnegie, Esq. town-clerk of Aberdeen, Jameson's great-great-grandson.

Sir Duncan Campbell; William, earl of Airth; John, duke of Rothes; James, marquis of Hamilton; Archibald Lord Napier; William, earl Marischal; Earl of Loudon, lord high chancellor; Thomas Lord Binning; John, earl of Mar; Sir Robert Campbell; Sir John Campbell; Genealogical picture of twenty heads of the family of Lochow:—In possession of the earl of Breadalbane.

Two of the family of Argyle.—In possession of the duke of Argyle.

Lord Glamis.—In possession of the earl of Strathmore.

George Herriot, jeweller.—In Herriot's Hospital.

Sir Alexander Erskine, Cambuskenneth; Sir Charles Erskine, of Alva; Sir John Erskine, of Otterstown; Arthur Erskine, Scotscraig; William Erskine, master of

of Charterhouse; Mary Erskine, countess of Marischal and of Panmure; Margaret, countess of Rothes; Martha, countess of Strathmore; Anne Lady Binning; Henry, prince of Wales; Henry Erskine, lord of Dryburgh.—In the possession of Lord Alva.

Sir Alexander Gibson, lord of session, collector of decisions.—In the possession of Murray of Polmaise, and countess of Rothes.

James Erskine, earl of Buchan; Henry Erskine, lord of Dryburgh; Alexander Erskine, son of Mar, full length.—In possession of the earl of Buchan.

Alexander Fraser, of Philorth; William Forbes, of Tolquhon.—In the possession of Lord Salton.

Sir Thomas Hope, lord advocate; Sir John Hope, lord of session; Margaret Murray, his wife.—In possession of Mr. Scott, late of Rossie.

Sir Adam Gordon.—In the possession of Sir Ernest Gordon, Park.

Dr. Dun, founder of the grammar-school, Aberdeen.—In the possession of Bisset, Lessendrum.

Crichton, Viscount Frendraught; Sutherland, Lady Frendraught; Marquis of Montrose; Urquhart of Cromarty; His wife; Lesly, Lady Frendraught.—In possession of Morrison of Bognie.

Charles I.; Jameson himself.—In possession of Mr. Jameson, wine-merchant, Leith.

Three young girls of the Haddington family.—In the possession of Sir John Dalrymple.

Three girls, aged six, seven, and eight, of the families of Argyle, Errol, and Kinnoul.—In the possession of Baird of Auchmedden.

Two boys, aged three and five, and a dog.—In the possession of Lindsay of Wormistown.

Marchioness of Huntly; Marchioness of Gordon.—In the possession of the duke of Gordon.

Sir Thomas Hope, lord-advocate.—In the possession of the earl of Hopetoun.

Dr. William Johnston, brother of Dr. Arthur; Forbes, his wife.—In the possession of Andrew Skene, Esq. of Dyce.

Dr. Arthur Johnston; Mr. Andrew Cant, minister; Gordon of Straloch, publisher of maps; Sir Paul Menzies, provost of Aberdeen; a Head unknown.—In Marischal College.

Patrick Forbes, bishop of Aberdeen; Professor Sandilands; Professor Gordon; The Sybils, some of them supposed to be of Jameson's hand.—In King's College.

Charles I.—In possession of Mr. Campbell, Royal Bank, Edinburgh.

Earl of Tweeddale.—In possession of the marquis of Tweeddale.

Andrew Fraser, of Muchills; His wife, daughter of the family of Forbes; Two heads unknown.—In the possession of Charles Fraser, Inverallochie.

Two Sandilands of the Torpichen family.—In the possession of Wauchope of Niddrie.

Sandilands of Cottown.—In the possession of Mr. Paul of Aberdeen.

General David Leslie; Sir Alexander Fraser of Frasersburgh; William Forbes, first bishop of Edinburgh; Sir

Sir Thomas Nicolson, lord-advocate.—In the possession of William Urquhart of Craigston.

Sir Thomas Nicolson, lord-advocate.—In the possession of the earl of Kinnoul.

Earl of Huntly, called Luckenhand.—In the possession of the countess-dowager of Aberdeen.

James VI. a full length.

Carnegie of Southesk; Carnegie of Northesk; Carnegie of Craigs; Carnegie of Dunnichen.—In the possession of Sir David Carnegie of Southesk.

Patrick Forbes, bishop of Aberdeen.—In the possession of Sir William Forbes, Craigievar.

David Anderson, of Finzeauch, merchant, burgess of Aberdeen, commonly called "Davie do a' thing," uncle to Jameson; Mr. Alexander Robertson, town-clerk of Aberdeen; Another not known.—In the possession of Charles Bannerman, Esq. Aberdeen, married to his great-great great-grand-daughter.

Alexander Bannerman of Elsick in 1643.—In the possession of Sir Alexander Bannerman, Bart.

We regret, that in our short notice relative to Hugh Irvine, Esq. it was omitted to mention his picture of Castle-street, Aberdeen. The view is taken from the east, looking down into Union-street, and rendered peculiarly interesting from several well-disposed groups of figures, some of which are striking portraits. This picture was exhibited at Somerset House in the month of May last.

From the information with which we have been favoured, we are inclined to think that, although there may be several individual pictures of the old masters in some of the houses of the nobility and gentry in the county of Aberdeen; yet there is hardly any number to be found, except in one or two instances, which can

with any propriety be termed a collection. There are some pictures of the old masters in Seaton House, the residence of James Forbes, Esq.; and Alexander Brebner, Esq. of Lairney, has in his possession several pictures of the Italian school: but we believe, the best collection in this county is in the possession of Sir William Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar, at Fintray House. The Cumean Sybil, by Guercino, purchased at Florence, in that collection, was, in the opinion of the late Sir Joshua Reynolds, the finest production of that master; and the boy, in the corner of that picture, pointing to the Sybilean record of our Saviour's birth, equal to the finest effort of the pencil of Guido. St. John in the wilderness by Carlo Dolce, in the same collection, is a rare specimen of that master. In this collection are also included pictures by Snyders, Wovermans, Gerard Dow, Vanderneer, and others, the old masters of the Flemish school.

In this city, in the collection of Mr. Ewen, there are specimens of the works of Caravagio, Vandyck, Sckalken, Bourgoinone, Paul Bril, Rubens, Guido, Old Franks, Vandevelde, Titian, Barroccio, Job Berkheyden, Van Diest, 'Orrozzonti, Corregio, Rembrant, Breughel, Marco Benefial, Francisco Bolognese, Poussin, Spagnoletto, Panini, Stoccade, Patel, Hans Holbein, Egbert Hemskerck, Vandermeulin, Baptist, Van Goyen, Rambouts, Brawer, Ostade, Ruysdaal, Ferguson, Hondekoeter, Valesquez, and others of the old masters; with those of a later period, by Chatelain, Sir Godfrey Kneller, Dodd, Abraham Pether, Angelica Kauffman, Zoffany, and others of, and from, artists of more modern times.

THE Chapter on Literature and the Arts, together with the very judicious and benevolent proposition of a Scheme of permanent provision for the Widows and Children of Burgesses, were drawn up for this work at the Author's request, by a Gentleman, to whom he cannot avoid, on this occasion, expressing his strong sense of obligation.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER VIII.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

* * * *

UNITED PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THIS institution was established long ago, and its character has gradually risen with the liberal support it has received from the public. There are about 52,000 volumes in this library, and that number is daily augmented by the addition of most of the new and popular works which constantly issue from the press. There are also many old and valuable books to be found in this library, which altogether contains a greater collection of works of merit than any similar provincial institution in the kingdom.

The terms of subscription are moderate; and every attention is given to the accommodation of the subscribers, by Mr. Forbes Frost, the librarian. The library is situated in Broad-street, and is kept open from

eight o'clock morning, to nine at night. It was formerly kept in a floor above the Athenæum, but was removed to Broad-street last year, where the bookselling and stationary business is carried on by the same concerns.

Terms of subscription for the *Aberdeen Circulating Library*, viz. 21s. a-year; 12s. a half year; 7s. 6d. a quarter,—entitles a subscriber to all the new publications as they come out: 15s. a year; 9s. a half-year; 5s. a quarter,—entitles a subscriber to all the books in the printed catalogue, but none of the new publications, till they are printed in an appendix, which is published annually. Any number of books can be had by paying accordingly.

Athenæum.—This news-room, or literary establishment, was commenced about nine years ago, and is situated in Castle-street. It is supported by about 250 subscribers, who pay each one guinea and a half annually. The most of the London, Edinburgh, and provincial newspapers are received, as well as many pamphlets, magazines, &c. The subscribers to this institution, include the most part of the respectable people in the town and neighbourhood.

Literary and Commercial News Room.—This establishment is much older than the former, and is situated in the Netherkirkgate. There are above a hundred subscribers, who are accommodated with the London, Edinburgh, and provincial papers, the reviews and magazines,

zines.—It is conducted by Mr. Alexander Stevenson, bookseller.

Caledonian Literary Society.—This society was instituted about seven years ago, for the purpose of establishing a permanent library, to contain the most approved books in science and literature. It is the property of the subscribers, who pay 10s. 6d. of entry money, and 6s. yearly; besides contributing one book each to the collection. The society have already several hundred volumes of valuable books; and their stock is fast increasing by the frequent addition of reputable works.

Dentists.—Gentlemen of this profession formerly visited Aberdeen; but, till lately, there was no professional person resident in this city. One gentleman, indeed, who had studied the anatomy and diseases of the teeth, occasionally practised among his friends, but without *taking fees.* Mr. Crombie, however, in Castle-street, having devoted his whole attention to the prevention and cure of diseases in the teeth, as well as to the making and placing of sets and single teeth—there has been no encouragement given to any other person in that line since his commencement; and indeed, his great skill and dexterity in the profession, are so well known, that none have attempted to rival him.

Musical Instrument Manufactory.—An establishment of this kind was commenced four years ago, by Messrs Knowles

Knowles and Allen, with every prospect of success; and from the prevailing taste for music, and the superior manner in which the instruments are finished, their business is rapidly increasing. They make *organs, piano-fortes, violins, guitars,* and in fact, all sorts of musical instruments, and also supply their customers and the public with musical books. They sell their instruments at fair prices, and find an ample demand, not only in Scotland, but even in London, to which place they annually send instruments of all descriptions.

Theatre.—A neat theatre was built some years ago in Marischal-street, by a society of gentlemen, who let it to the highest bidder; and it produces a rent of L.200 sterling a year. It is kept open for three or four months during winter and spring. The house, when full, may produce from L.60 to L.70, at the present prices; but in general, the receipts are not half so much: and on the whole, it has not been a profitable concern to the players.

Taverns or *Hotels.*—The *New Inn,* Castle-street, is kept by Mr. Cleugh, and may be considered as the first hotel in the town.—Mr. Dempster's hotel is situated in Union-street.—Mr. Ronald's, in Huxter Row; —and Mr. Smith's, in King-street.—These inns are all of the first rank; and for the variety and elegance of their entertainments, are exceeded by none in Scotland.

List

List of Provosts from 1782 to 1811, *inclusive.*—1782-3, William Young; 1784-5, William Cruden; 1786, James Jopp; 1787-8, John Abercrombie; 1789-90, William Cruden; 1791-2, George Auldjo; 1793-4, John Abercrombie; 1795-6, George More; 1797-8 Thomas Leys; 1799-1800, John Dingwall; 1801-2, James Hadden; 1803-4, Thomas Leys; 1805-6, Alexander Brebner; 1807-8, George More; 1809-10, James Hadden; 1811, James Young.

APPENDIX.

SCHEME

FOR MAKING

PROVISION FOR WIDOWS AND ORPHANS

OF THE

BURGESSES OF GUILD OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN.

IN the course of enumerating the different Friendly Societies of this city, with their various establishments for the benefit of the widows and children of the members, it certainly must excite considerable surprize to reflect, that no institution, upon the principle of an equitable assurance, has ever been adopted by the burgesses of guild. It is obvious that they form, by the constitution of this and every other borough in Scotland, the most distinguished and leading branch of the community; and with the artificers, or incorporated tradesmen, are alone, in a legal sense, the constituent members of the corporation.

In this public character and capacity, they are indeed represented by the magistrates and council; but, as merchants and manufacturers, forming the guild of the city, they are without that provision for their wives and families, to which they are, from their situation in

life, so peculiarly intitled, and which would so much contribute to their respectability and comfort.

It is true, they have, in consequence of the sum paid into the treasury of the borough, at the time they are admitted members of the guild, a title, "*in case of necessity,*" to an allowance from the public funds. But this *pittance,* invariably granted at the discretion of the magistrates and council, and in consequence of a petition setting forth "*the nccessity of the case,*" is, whatever its amount may be, always obtained, not merely as a matter of right, but in the nature of an eleemosynary grant, and, in every view, in the guise and form of a deed of charity.

This is a mortifying circumstance; but it is, without doubt, in a great measure owing to the general ideas which prevailed at the time these funds were established, and the predominating principles and opinions by which the persons then in office were influenced. Times and opinions, however, are greatly changed. The habits and expence of living are materially altered; and these changes call for a corresponding provision, according to rank and situation. If, therefore, an institution of the deepest importance to its members has hitherto been neglected, ought it not now to be adopted without farther delay?

Indeed it has been frequently thought of, and in one instance, considerable progress had been made by some individuals towards the establishment of an institution of this sort. Upwards of twenty years since, considerable pains were taken to promote such an institution, by an association of the burgesses of guild, under the combined

combined idea of a chamber of commerce, and the establishment of a fund as a provision for widows and children. Rules for the government of this necessary institution, were drawn up, and at that time circulated, and very generally approved of. But by a very strange and inexplicable conduct of two gentlemen who borrowed, for some pretended public purpose, a considerable portion of the original fund, and refused to pay it back to the treasurer, who held their note of hand for the sum borrowed, under the plea that the society had no *nomen juris*, the members were disgusted, and this excellent plan was at that time lost to the public. This happened too after the society had actually acquired a form and substance, by an election of executive managers, and when a deposit of the entry-money and first annual payment had been placed in the treasurer's hands.

But the gentleman to whom had been committed the formation of the original plan, and who had framed the rules for its constitution and government, in the view of providing for its farther improvement, had procured a set of tables upon a moderate scale, founded on the principles of an equitable assurance; and these were furnished to him by Dr. Richard Price, the most eminent calculator and mathematician then living; and whose calculations for the Equitable Assurance Office, Blackfriars-bridge, London, under the management of his nephew, Mr. Morgan, have maintained their reputation, while many schemes on a pretended similar principle, and held out to the public as advantageous, have proved illusory and deceptious.

These tables were afterwards examined, and approved of by other able calculators; but unfortunately, the temporary disgust excited by the failure of the former well digested scheme, occasioned an indifference in the burgesses to enter into any new plan, however well formed, and established on principles the most solid and indisputable. The proposal, however, appears of a nature so valuable and important. as not to be unworthy of a place in the History of Aberdeen.

Viewing it as a proposition of considerable utility, a copy of the tables are annexed in their original form, as furnished by Dr. Price, which may be easily altered or extended, according to the desire of the burgesses. Of all establishments, as a future provision for families, none is so little liable to exception as that which is founded on the principle of *equitable assurance,* and the probabilities of human life. Indeed experience has so fully proved its certainty and effect, that it is now left destitute of any the most trivial objection. The fine, or premium, at entry, as well as the after annual payment, are entirely regulated by the age of the person becoming a member, and, of course, on the most fair and equitable principle. To commercial people it comes recommended by every consideration connected with their situation in life; and therefore, to the burgesses of guild in this city, it is now seriously and earnestly recommended.

How many well-principled and industrious young men have set out in the world with the fairest prospects, followed up with a life of corresponding application,

cation; but who, after having supposed themselves in certain possession of an ample provision for their families, by a train of unforeseen accidents, in which they themselves had no portion of blame, have been reduced to a state of deep depression, or suddenly cut off by a short illness, while those they have left behind were suffered to pine in want, or struggle through life on the most slender pittance. This melancholy, but unexaggerated picture, might be filled up with numerous examples in illustration—but it is needless. The observations of the intelligent and sympathetic reader will abundantly supply them. It is sufficient to add, that if the burgesses of guild of the city of Aberdeen, have been hitherto inattentive to a duty so eminently incumbent, and to what so intimately connected itself with their best interests, let them neglect no longer the establishment of a fund for the benefit of their families on the principles of an equitable assurance.

To its management, they themselves, as men of business, are fully equal. They have only to determine that an institution so important to them and their families, shall be established, and its sanction, under the title of "*A Friendly Society of the Burgesses of Guild of Aberdeen,*" for this express purpose, will be easily obtained.

THE following Tables had been very obligingly furnished by the Rev. Dr. Richard Price, upon a representation that there was an intention of establishing a Fund for a provision to the widows and children of the Burgesses of Aberdeen. It is almost unnecessary to observe, that Dr. Price's abilities, as a mathematician, are in very high estimation; that his calculations on annuities, and assurances on lives, are very much approved of; and that all the funds, upon the principles he has recommended, have stood the test of many years, and have established his reputation, as a calculator, very deservedly, in the opinion of the public. These tables have also been seen, examined, and approved of, by other calculators in this country. They are nearly the same with those furnished by Dr. Price for the clergy of London and Middlesex; and it will be observed, by looking at the tables, that the annual payment may be either diminished *or* extended, *as the subscribers to the plan shall determine.*

ART. 1. EVERY married man, not exceeding 50 years of age, shall subscribe annually during marriage, two guineas, in order to entitle his wife, provided she is not more than fifteen years younger than himself, to an annuity of ten pounds, payable to her during her widowhood.

ART.

ART. 2. He shall make his first payment at admission; and besides his annual payment of two guineas, he shall pay the fines in the two first of the annexed tables, on account of his own and his wife's ages.

ART. 3. If he should die in the first year after admission, and before he has made two annual payments, his widow shall be entitled to only a quarter of an annuity. If he should die in the second year after admission, and before he has made three annual payments, or in the third year, and before he has made four annual payments, his widow shall be entitled, in the former case, to only half an annuity, and in the latter, to only three-quarters of an annuity. But should he die at any time after three years, his widow shall be entitled to a whole annuity.

ART. 4. Every married man, for an annual payment greater or less than two guineas, shall be entitled to an annuity proportionably greater or less, provided he also pays fines proportionably greater or less. That is, should he chuse to make his annual payment one-half less (or one guinea instead of two guineas), and to pay only half the fines in the annexed tables, his widow shall be entitled to an annuity of £1 5s.; £2 10s.; £3 15s.; or £.5; according as he shall happen to die in the first, second, third, or any time after the third year, from the time of his admission.

On the contrary, should he chuse to make his annual payment one-half greater (or three guineas instead of two), and to pay also fines one-half greater; that

that is, £3 15s.; £7 10s.; £11 5s.; and L.15, according as his death shall happen in the first, second, third, or any time after the third year from the time of his admission.

An annual payment of four guineas, with double fines, shall entitle a widow to a double annuity; that is, to L.5; L.10; L.15; and L.20; as the death of the subscriber shall happen in the first, second, third, or at any time after the third year from the time he became a subscriber.

Art. 5. Every married person who shall desire to become a member for the benefit of his widow, shall make the following declaration: "I, A. B. aged
" years, do solemnly declare, that I am,
" at this present time, in a good state of health, and
" that I have no distemper which, according to the
" best of my knowledge or belief, may lead to the
" shortening of my life."

Art. 6. Every batchelor or widower, under 40 years of age, who shall become a subscriber, and before he is 50, shall marry a person not more than 15 years younger than himself, shall entitle his widow to an addition of five shillings a year to the annuity to which his subscription after marriage shall entitle her, for every guinea which, in annual payments, or otherwise, he shall have advanced before marriage, provided he will pay his first annual contribution as a married man, with the correspondent fines, within three months after

after marriage, and, at the same time, make the foregoing declaration.

ART. 7. Every married man, should he die a widower, shall, for the payments during life, in the third of the annexed tables, entitle such of his children, under age, as shall be living at the time of his decease, to L.100, payable among them in such shares as he shall appoint, or, in default of such appointment, in equal shares.—For half-payments, such children shall be entitled to L.50.—For payments one-half greater, to L.150.—For double payments, to L.200.

TABLES of Fines to be paid by a subscriber of L.2 2s. per annum.

TABLE I.

For the excess of the Husband's Age above 30.

Age.	Fine. L.	s.	d.	Age.	Fine. L.	s.	d.
31	0	12	0	41	6	9	0
32	1	4	0	42	7	1	0
33	1	14	0	43	7	6	0
34	2	4	0	44	7	11	0
35	2	14	0	45	7	17	0
36	3	5	0	46	8	4	0
37	3	17	0	47	8	12	0
38	4	9	0	48	9	0	0
39	5	2	0	49	9	7	0
40	5	16	0	50	9	14	0
				51	10	0	0

TABLE

TABLE II.

Shewing the Fine due from a Subscriber of L.2 2s. per annum, on account of the excess of his age above his wife's age.

Husband's Age.	Fine. L.	s.	d.	Husband's Age.	Fine. L.	s.	d.
30 or less,	0	7	6	41	0	9	6
31	0	7	6	42	0	10	0
32	0	7	6	43	0	10	0
33	0	7	6	44	0	10	0
34	0	8	0	45	0	10	6
35	0	8	0	46	0	10	6
36	0	8	0	47	0	11	0
37	0	8	6	48	0	11	6
38	0	8	6	49	0	12	0
39	0	9	0	50	0	13	0
40	0	9	0	51	0	14	0

TABLE III.

Shewing the values of L.100 payable to such children, *under age*, of a married man, as shall happen to be living at the time of his death, provided he leaves no widow.

Age.	Annual Paymt. during life. L.	s.	d.	Husb. Age.	An. Pay. during life. L.	s.	d.
27 or less,	0	10	0	40	0	16	6
28	0	10	6	41	0	17	0
29	0	11	0	42	0	17	6
30	0	12	0	43	0	18	0
31	0	13	0	44	0	18	6
32	0	13	6	45	0	19	0
33	0	13	6	46	1	0	0
34	0	14	0	47	1	1	0
35	0	14	0	48	1	2	0
36	0	14	6	49	1	3	0
37	0	15	0	50	1	4	0
38	0	15	6	51	1	5	0
39	0	16	0	52	1	6	0

Interest reckoned at 4 per cent.

APPENDIX.

No. I.

UNIVERSITY AND KING'S COLLEGE OF ABERDEEN.

The following account of the King's College of Aberdeen was drawn up for Sir John Sinclair, and is printed in his Statistical work. It has been revised by the Gentlemen of the College, who have made several additions; and it may now be deemed a correct statement of every thing worth recording relative to that Seminary.

INTRODUCTION.

IT may be remarked, to the credit of Great Britain, that its inhabitants have not only erected some very celebrated universities at home, but have also been the means of establishing similar institutions in foreign countries. At first, these institutions resembled in some respects schools, more than universities; only two faculties, that of arts and that of theology having place in them: afterwards, however, two others, law and medicine, were added; which completed the whole course or system of education as then taught. It is but justice to Scotland here to observe, how much the revival of learn-

ing may be attributed to natives of that country. Of this the French in particular were so sensible, that, four nations only being at first admitted into the university of Paris, the Scots were placed next to the French, *properly so called,* and above the Picards and Normans. It appears that so long ago as the reign of king Malcolm IV. there existed at Old Aberdeen a *Studium generale in Collegio Canonicorum Aberdonensium,* where there were professors and doctors, both of divinity, and of canon and civil laws. This *Collegium Canonicum* was instituted by Edward, bishop of Aberdeen, anno 1157, soon after the episcopal see had been translated from Mortlach, and subsisted, as we find in Hector Boece's lives of the bishops of Aberdeen, until the foundation of the college by bishop Elphinston.

Institution of the University, &c.—In the year 1494, pope Alexander VI. by a bull dated at Rome, February 10th, instituted in the city of Old Aberdeen, or *Aberdon,* as it is there called, an university, or *Studium generale et Universas Studii generalis,* for theology, canon and civil laws, medicine, the liberal arts, and every other lawful faculty. In it, ecclesiastics, laics, masters, and doctors, are appointed to read, and teach those who come to pursue their studies, from what parts soever, in like manner as in other privileged universities. It is farther appointed, that the students, according to merit, shall receive the degrees of Baccalaureat, Licentiate, Master, and Doctor; and powers of granting the same are specially conferred. With these degrees are bestowed all the privileges, pre-

eminencies,

eminencies, liberties, exemptions, favours and indulgencies, which are known to belong to any other university; and that, not only within this, but every other university, *ubicunque terrarum*, without any farther examination. Lastly, it is appointed, that William Elphinston, then bishop of Aberdeen, and his successors in office, should be chancellors of the university, and sole judges in all causes criminal and civil, ecclesiastical or temporal, affecting its members. It was on the supplication of bishop Elphinston, that king James IV. applied for this bull. By his royal authority, the king might have granted the requisite privileges and immunities within his own kingdom; but he conceived that it required the plenitude of the papal power to extend them *ubique terrarum*. The king, in his letter, gives a most deplorable account of the barbarous state of the north, or Highlands of Scotland, at that time. It is there stated, "that the inhabitants were ignorant of letters, and almost unci-
"vilized; that there were no persons to be found fit
"to preach the word of God to the people, or to ad-
"minister the sacraments of the church; and besides,
"that the country was so intersected with mountains
"and arms of the sea, so distant from the universities
"already erected, and the roads so dangerous, that
"the youth had not access to the benefit of education
"in those seminaries. But," adds the king, "the
"city of Old Aberdeen is situated at a moderate dis-
"tance from the highland country and northern is-
"lands; enjoys an excellent temperature of air, abun-
"dance of provisions, and the conveniency of habita-

" tion, and of every thing necessary for human life." He therefore requests that an university may be instituted there, comprehending every lawful faculty.

As two universities had already been erected in Scotland, it might have occurred, as an objection to the institution of a third, that two had been thought sufficient for the whole of England; " but," says the bull, " science has this distinguishing quality, that " the diffusion of it tends not to diminish, but to in- " crease the general mass." Of the same date, the pope granted a mandate to the bishops of Aberdeen and Dunblane, and the abbot of Cambuskenneth, or any two or more of them, to publish the above bull, and effectually to defend and patronise the doctors, masters, and scholars, in all their privileges and immunities, and cause the statutes and institutions to be inviolably observed*. The execution of this mandate did not take place till the 25th of February, 1496; on which day, within the cathedral church of Aberdeen, William Elphinston, the worthy bishop of that diocese, caused Matthew Pocock, a public notary, to publish the

* There are some differences between the bull of Alexander VI. and the bull of pope Nicolas V. in 1457, by which the university of Glasgow was erected. It appears, however, by the coincidence of expression, that the person who drew up pope Alexander's bull for Aberdeen, had that of pope Nicolas before him; or perhaps there was a general form for all such grants, though occasionally varied as circumstances might render necessary. The original foundation-charter, papal bulls, and other papers referred to, are still extant in the charter-chest of King's College.

the above bull, in presence of Mr. Archibald Lindsay, cantor, Andrew Leill, treasurer, and the other members of the chapter. The same pope, by another bull dated 1495, annexed the church of Aberluthnot, now Marykirk, and haill revenue of the hospital of St. Germains, to the university. By the charter of confirmation of James IV. May 22, 1497, the king empowers bishop Elphinston to erect a college within the university, and to divide its revenues among the masters and scholars as he shall think proper, according to commission and authority given him by the pope. In consequence of these powers, bishop Elphinston, the chancellor, made and published his first foundation in his life-time; leaving at his death, a second or enlarged foundation, which was published by his successor, bishop Gavin Dunbar, in the cathedral, anno 1531, after establishing its authenticity by a solemn inquisition and proof. These two foundation charters are the written law, in all questions and disputes that may happen to arise among the members of the university.

By the first foundation, dated 1505, and confirmed by pope Julius's bull in 1506, he erects and endows *unum Collegium scholarium studentium ad magistrorum sub vocabulo* SANCTÆ MARIÆ IN NATIVITATE. This college consisted of 36 persons; but by the second foundation, confirmed by a bull of pope Clement VII., 1526, the number was augmented to forty-two; viz. four doctors in the faculties of theology, canon law, civil law, and medicine; the first of these to be called principal: eight masters of arts, whereof the first to be called

sub-principal; the second, grammarian; and the other six, students in theology: six batchelors in arts (all the above, except the mediciner, to be in priest's orders): thirteen poor scholars: eight prebends for the service of the church, of which the first to be cantor, the second, sacrist; and six singing boys.

Original Constitution.—It appears from the foregoing statement, that though an university had been established in the city of Old Aberdeen in 1494, yet no college was founded within it till 1506. During the years that intervened between the time of instituting the university, and that of founding the college, doctors, masters, and students existed, and were endowed in the university by popes' bulls and royal donations; but they did not form a college. They might reside, study, and teach in any place within the university, but were subject to no particular rules or discipline. To prevent the inconveniences that might thence arise, was the intention of bishop Elphinston in founding his college; and as it is the only one that has ever been erected in this university, it therefore posseses within itself the whole rights and privileges of an university. This college having been soon after taken under the immediate protection of the king, its name was changed from that of St. Mary's to King's College; and the whole incorporation has been since with propriety denominated, *The University and King's College of Aberdeen.*

Administration of the Funds, and Government of the Members.—In this incorporation, the administration of

the funds, and government of the members, are vested in the principal, sub-principal, regents, and professors, assembled in a college meeting, or *senatus academicus*; from which there lies an appeal, in *prima instantia*, to the rector and assessors, and finally to the chancellor of the university. There remain vestiges of the ancient division of the members into four nations, each having their head or procurator. These had considerable authority in the university of Paris*, which was the model of that of Aberdeen; but are now perfectly in dissuetude here, except at certain elections, when they are chosen *in hunc effectum*; and are denominated the nations of Lothian, Murray, Angus, and Mar.

Conservators.—In the days of popery the conservators, as they are called, were counted an important part of the constitution. Two classes of these were appointed: one by the pope, called Apostolical Conservators, intended for the preservation of the rights and privileges conferred on the university by the see of Rome; the other by royal charter, called the Royal Conservators, for conservation of those conferred by the crown. These last are instituted and nominated in a charter under the great seal, anno 1498. They were

* The *procuratores nationum* of the university of Paris, directed all the transactions and correspondence of the students with their friends in the country; and by sending regular carriers to the distant provinces for that purpose, gave the first proof of the benefit arising from a regular communication between the different parts of the kingdom; which led to the institution of Posts through Europe.

were, the sheriff of Aberdeen, or his depute; 2dly, The provost of the royal borough of Aberdeen *(aldermanus burgi nostri de Aberdeen)*; and, 3dly, *Balivus episcopi Aberdonen. pro tempore, de civitate veteri Aberdonen.*: who are appointed "*conservatores privilegiorum universorum, jurium, libertatum et commoditatum predictæ nostræ universatis et studii generalis, ut hujusmodi conservari et defendi faciant adeo libere et cum omni potestate et jurisdictione, sicut conservatores in præfata universitate Parisiensi habent a Christianissimis Francorum regibus, absque interruptione vel violatione quibuscunque.*" The apostolical conservators are appointed by a papal bull of Alexander VI. dated *nonas Julii* 1500, *anno pontificatus nostri* 8*vo*. The conservators named were, the bishop of Aberdeen, and the abbots of Cambuskenneth and Scone; with the clause, *duo vel unus vestrum, per vos vel per alium*.—All the members of the university being sworn at their entry to subordination and obedience to the statutes, he who refused to appear before the university when lawfully summoned, or who was found to have trespassed against the statutes, was declared infamous or perjured; and if he did not submit, the apostolical conservators were applied to, who were empowered by the pope's bull, above quoted, to inflict ecclesiastical censure without appeal.

Procurator, or Common Receiver.—The collection and distribution of the revenue is committed to a procurator, or common receiver, who is elected, *de gremio et fundatione collegii*, by the principal, canonist, civilist, mediciner,

mediciner, sub-principal, grammarian, cantor, and sacrist, for such a space of time as they may think fit. It is declared to be his duty to collect the college revenue, and to pay the masters and scholars the respective salaries allotted them by the foundation; for which trouble he received five merks extraordinary. He is to be admitted by the chancellor, or, in his absence, or during the vacancy of the episcopal see, by the rector. He is empowered to set in tack, and even to feu out *(arrendare et ad firmam demittere)*, the teinds and lands of the college, with the advice, and by the authority of his electors, or the major part of them, to the common utility of the college, and no otherwise. At his election, he is to find sufficient security, otherwise he is not to be admitted to the office. There is another office-bearer of a similar nature mentioned in the foundation, and there stiled "*bursarius communis*," who is to receive the bursaries in every faculty, and to render an account to the faculty of arts. The appointment of this office-bearer has been long discontinued, and his duty conjoined with that of the common procurator. The provisor, or *œconomus*, is appointed to be elected by the principal, sub-principal, and regents: his business is to find provision for the several regents, students, and others, who were bound to reside within the college. The procurator is to advance money to him daily.

Of the Chancellor.—By pope Alexander's bull, as mentioned above, anno 1494, bishop Elphinston and his successors, bishops of Aberdeen, are appointed *ex officio*

officio chancellors of the university. In Paris, the pattern university, there are two chancellors of inferior power and dignity to the rector, viz. the chancellor of Notre Dame and of St. Genevieve.—In this there is but one; he is, however, of supreme power. By the same bull it is appointed that those whom the rector of the university, with the major part of the regents, masters, or doctors of the respective faculties, shall recommend to promotion to the degree of doctor, master, licentiate, or *baccalareus* in any of the faculties, shall be promoted by the chancellor, or whom he deputes for that purpose. The chancellor is also appointed, with the advice of the rector and resident doctors, licentiates, and scholars, and two at least of the king's counsellors, to make and enact statutes for the good government of the university. The chancellor admits to their respective offices the principal, canonist, professor of civil law, medicus, sub-principal, grammaticus, cantor, and sacrist. If a vacancy is protracted beyond a month, he presents to all the offices without exception Whatever abuses are represented to him by the visitors, he reforms by their advice. If the visitors neglect to do their duty, the chancellor visits *per seipsum*. When there is a vacancy of the bishop's see, or when the bishop is absent *(in remotis agente)*, the duty of visitation belongs to the chapter, or to its *vicarius* deputed by the chapter. It also belongs to the chancellor to remove from their offices those who neglect their duty, after being frequently admonished by the principal.—Since the abolition of episcopacy, the chancellor has always been elected

elected by the principal and professors, and continues in office for life.

Rector and Assessors.—The rector of the university is the person next in dignity to the chancellor, and is called *Lord Rector*. He, with his assesors, has power to visit the college, *tam in capite quam in membris*, to examine into the state of the buildings, and the management of the revenue, &c., and report to the chancellor. The election to this office is annual; and has been uniformly exercised by the principal, sub-principal, and other members of the college, convened in a college meeting.—Although there be no rule in the foundation for the election of the four assessors, yet it mentions particularly that they should be *probi viri*, and masters of arts in the university, chosen and deputed to visit the college. They are chosen annually along with the rector; and it is their duty to assist him in his courts, where they sit as members.—The rector may be chosen *de collegio* or *extra collegium*; but he must actually reside within the university.

Courts for Delinquencies.—The gradation of the courts for punishing delinquencies in the college is established in the foundation in the following order. 1st, When any person belonging to the college, is found guilty of any delinquency, he is to be corrected by the principal, sub-principal, and regents. 2dly, If the delinquent contemns their authority, and refuses to submit to their award, he is to be punished by the rector and his court. 3dly, If he continues in his contumacy, he

is

is to be brought before the chancellor, who may inflict a punishment suited to his original delinquency aggravated by obstinacy, and even expel him from the university.

Principal.—The person first in dignity in the college, considered as a corporation, subordinate to the university, is the principal. He was to receive forty merks yearly of salary, besides his lodging in the college, and half the expence of his entertainment when he did duty personally. The principal was appointed to wear the doctoral habit of the university of Paris. It was his particular province to enforce discipline, and superintend the morals of the students; besides giving daily lectures in philosophy, and occasionally visiting those given by the regents. He must be elected by the rector, the four *procuratores nationum*, the doctors of canon and civil laws, the doctor of medicine, the sub-principal, grammarian, students in theology, cantor, and sacrist; or by the major part of them; and admitted by the chancellor of the university. At his election, he is to be a *magister in theologia si commode haberi potest;* otherwise a licentiate in that faculty, *cum rigore examinis*; and within a year, is to be promoted to the *gradus magistratus* in that faculty.

Professors of Canon Law, Civil Law, and Medicine.—The persons next in order to the principal were, the teachers of canon law, civil law, and medicine: all three, in like manner, licentiates in their several faculties

culties *(si doctores commode haberi non possint)*, and to be promoted to that degree within the year. The canonist's salary is equal to that of the principal; the civilist's L.20; and that of the mediciner, 20 merks: each having besides, a manse, garden, and glebe. Their duty was to prelect every lecture day in their several faculties, dressed in their proper habits: that of the doctor of canon law was to be conformable to the sacred canons of the *alma universitas Parisiensis*; that of the doctor of civil law, the same as that of the faculty of Orleans. The electors of these three doctors were the same with those of the principal; only the students of divinity, cantor and sacrist are omitted.

Sub-Principal.—The sub-principal came next in order to the doctors; and was elected by nearly the same persons with the principal, and admitted by the chancellor.

Regents in Arts.—The six students in theology were elected by the three doctors above mentioned, the sub-principal, grammarian, and regents, and admitted by the principal. These students were elected *tanto tempore quod ad doctoratus gradum in eadem facultate valeant promoveri, quod erat ad sex annos tantum;* after which they were to remove and make way for others. The founder appointed such a number of them as should be chosen by the principal and sub-principal, *ad regentiam in artibus.* After a trial of somewhat more than thirty years, this perpetually changing set of teachers in the arts was found exceedingly inconvenient; few of the

students in divinity made such progress during the prescribed term of six years, as to be found qualified for the degree of D. D.; and besides, the time of continuance of the regency was considered to be so short, that when one set had accomplished their course, others could not be found to succeed them. These inconveniences having been represented to pope Paul the Third, by William Stewart, bishop of Aberdeen, his Holiness, by a *breve indulti*, anno 1538, prorogued the term of six years; and allowed these regents and students in theology to continue to reside in the college, and exercise their functions, until others were found willing and fit to succeed them, and as long as the bishop of Aberdeen for the time should think proper. We shall see afterwards in what manner these regulations of the pope tended to introduce the present permanent establishment of the regents.

Duty of Sub-Principal and Regents.—The sub-principal and regents were to instruct their scholars in the liberal sciences, in the manner practised by the regents in the university of Paris. The branches taught were logic, philosophy, and metaphysics.

Residence of the Principal and other Members.—The principal, sub-principal, regents and students were to reside within the college; and the canonist, mediciner, grammarian, and civilist, within their manses.

No vacation, except in the Magistrand Class.—There was to be no vacation, during the whole year, except-

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ing in the magistrand class, in which the thirteen college bursaries in arts remained vacant from the first of April to the first of October exclusive, that is, from the promotion of the magistrands, to the *novum auditorium*. The principal, with the advice of the sub-principal, is to chuse, from among the students in divinity, the regent who begins the course, and continues for the four succeeding years.

Grammarian.—The grammarian is to receive twenty merks of salary. He is to teach grammar, poetry, and rhetoric. He is to be chosen by the principal, *procuratores nationum*, doctors, sub-principal, regents, cantor, and sacrist, and admitted by the chancellor.

Divine Worship in College Chapel.—Beside the charge of instruction and education, the above persons, along with the cantor, sacrist, and chaplains, had the charge of divine worship in the college chapel on Sunday, and all the holidays, according to an order and rules very particularly laid down in the foundation.

Medical Professorship.—It is worthy of observation, that among the original members founded by bishop Elphinston, we find a professor of canon law, and a professor of medicine; none of which professorships are known to have been at that time established in the other universities of Scotland. It is probable that this early institution of a medical professorship in the university of Aberdeen, was owing to the king's own predilection for that science, in which he is said to have

been "a willing and a skilful practitioner:" and we find certain annual rents mentioned in the foundation, as particulary assigned by the king for the support of this office. Physicians appear to have been in great request about that time in the north of Scotland; for in 1503, the town-council of Aberdeen appointed ten merks yearly to be paid to James Cumin, physician, to induce him to stay in the town "till he could be "provided with a salmon fishing of the usual rent, "but without paying any grassum." This is probably the same James Cumin who died professor of medicine in 1521; and he appears to have been the first who held that office.

HISTORY.

Commencement of Education.—It cannot be determined from any of the college records, how long it was after the date of pope Alexander's bull of erection, before the teaching and lectures began. We may take it for granted that at least nine years elapsed, as the date of bishop Elphinston's first foundation, is anno 1505. This point might have been determined with sufficient precision, if Hector Boece, when describing very particularly his polite reception by the canons of the cathedral of Aberdeen, on his return from Paris, had thought proper to subjoin a date: for his words (vitæ p. 2. fol. 26.) imply, that the teaching must have been begun upon his arrival, and, as appears from his relation, with the happiest consequences: "Exactâ inde et perseverauti diligentiâ ef-

"fectum

" fectum est, ut brevi post tempore præstante disci-
" plinâ viri ex Aberdonensi universali academia pro-
" dierunt, in divinis literis, et utroque jure; permulti
" in philosophia."

Additional Revenue by James IV. and Bishop Elphinston.—To the original endowments of the university, consisting of the revenues of the hospital of St. Germains, at Tranent in Lothian (which comprehended the churches of Aberluthnot, Glenmyck, and Abergardyn), king James IV. added the tithes of the parishes of Slains, Auchindore, and Tillynessle, in the county of Aberdeen, with certain lands and rents in the county of Banff. Bishop Elphinston likewise added the lands of Balnakettle, Mundurno, Berryhill, and others, in the county of Aberdeen; most of which have been lost by various accidents, and some of them repurchased.

Buildings.—At his own expence chiefly, but not without some aid from royal munificence, the bishop built the necessary edifices, in a style certainly magnificent for Scotland in that age; and such of those buildings as remain not much changed, bear testimony to the good taste of the founder.

Professors' Glebes.—Having with great pains been able to accomplish the purchase of various lands adjoining to and surrounding the edifice, to the extent of 24 acres, he appropriated these for the glebes, gardens, and houses, of the professors.

*Bishop Elphinston's Bequest of L.*10,000—Bishop Elphinston died in 1514, before his beneficent plans had been completed: but he bequeathed for that purpose, the sum of ten thousand pounds Scots, in gold and silver then lying in his coffers.

Bishop Dunbar.—What bishop Elphinston left unfinished, was carried forward by bishop Gavin Dunbar; who, during the thirteen years that he filled the see, from 1518 to 1532, is said to have expended the whole revenue in pious and charitable uses. Besides the additions which he made to the edifices of the college and the cathedral, he completed the bridge over the Dee; and, hard by the cathedral, he built an hospital, as a memorial of his name to future times.

Bishop Stewart.—Bishop Stewart, who next succeeded to the see, added both to the buildings and to the revenue of the college, which, till the period of the reformation, appears to have been in a very flourishing state.

Hector Boyes, first Principal.—The first principal, Hector Boeth, or Boyes, eminent both as a biographer and historian, was brought from the university of Paris, where he taught philosophy, by his particular friend the founder, to commence the course of education in his college of Aberdeen.

William Hay, first Sub-Principal.—The first sub-principal, William Hay, accompanied Hector Boyes from

Paris, in which university he had also taught philosophy. He succeeded Boyes in the office of principal.

Principal Anderson.—John Bisset became principal after William Hay, but resigned his office at the end of six years, in favour of Alexander Anderson, who was principal at the time of the reformation. Principal Anderson's learning is commended, and his spirit in defending the edifice from a mob of reformers, whose purpose was to have stripped it of the leaden roof and the bells, in the same manner as they had treated the cathedral. But perceiving afterwards that the whole Roman Catholic establishment was going to wreck, and from the hatred he bore to the reformed religion, he alienated some of the college revenue—destroyed several of its charters, whereby many of the lands and rents of the hospital of St. Germains were quite lost—and sold the ornaments, books, and furniture belonging to the college. In 1569 he was expelled by the commissioners of visitation, together with all the other members, on account of their adherence to popery.

Principal Arbuthnot.—The regent, earl of Murray, was personally present, and bestowed the office of principal on Mr Alexander Arbuthnot, whose character stands very high for learning and worth, and the influence which he possessed among his contemporaries. In his time the revenue of the college received considerable additions, particularly the tithes belonging to the deanery and sub-chantery of Aberdeen, which

which were bestowed by king James VI. and which now constitute the principal part of its remaining income.

Nova Fundatio.—In the year 1578, visitors were appointed by authority of parliament, for new-modelling the state of the three Scotch universities; and in 1592 the *nova fundatio* of King's College was drawn up in name of the professors, and received the ratification of parliament in 1597.—By this model, which nearly resembled those adopted for the universities of St. Andrews and Glasgow, the whole establishment was reduced to a principal, with four regents, a professor of humanity, and some bursars.

Principal Rait's Dilapidations.—About this time, David Rait, principal of the college, feued off the manses and glebes belonging to the professors of medicine, civil law, canon law, and humanity; and, holding the office of procurator, or steward, together with that of principal, in his own person, for twenty years, he is accused of committing dilapidations, or *peculations* rather, in various ways, for his private advantage, and that of his friends.

Bishop Forbes checks these abuses, &c.—Bishop Forbes put an end to these abuses in 1619. Having procured a royal commission of visitation, in which he presided, he called the offending principal to account, and obliged him to refund in some measure: yet treating him very gently in respect of his learning, he

allowed

allowed him to hold his office during life. It was not without much difficulty and labour, continued for several years, that this worthy prelate was able to recover the glebe and manses so unwarrantably feued off, together with some part of the other property of the society, which had been alienated and embezzled. He also, at the same time, obtained a ratification and renovation, by parliament, of the original foundation; in consequence of which, he restored all the offices abolished by the *nova fundatio*, excepting only those of the chaplains and singing boys of the choir, which the change of religion had rendered no longer necessary. The cantor, however, was retained, and seems, about this time, to have got the designation of professor of music. The constitution, thus re-established, was ratified in the most ample manner, by an act of parliament in 1633: but, in 1639, commissioners from the General Assembly, at that time more powerful than parliament, suppressed the office of canonist and cantor, as being superfluous.

Thus, contrary to what has happened in St. Andrews and Glasgow, the original foundation of this college still continues in force with very few exceptions. The most material alteration introduced by the *nova fundatio* regarded the *studentes in theologia*, or regents in arts; who, in consequence of it, became "*quatuor* "*regentes qui juventute instituendæ præsint et Principali* "*auxiliarentur, quorum unus post Principalem sub-*"*principalis dicitur, cui quarta classis commissa est.*" The fourth regent was to be *præfectus primæ et infirmæ classis*

classis, in which he taught the Greek language; and the second and third had their several departments in philosophy and mathematics assigned to them: and thus all of them became fixed and permanent masters and regents in the college. This constitution, thus introduced, continued, notwithstanding the restoration of bishop Elphinston's foundation: the regents at that period, and down to the present time, appearing, from the records of the university, to have been permanent, and to enjoy all the privileges of other masters, such as sitting at college meetings, and voting at all elections*.

Professor of Divinity.—About the year 1620, a professor of divinity was added to the founded members of the university, by contributions from the bishop and clergy of the diocese of Aberdeen; and the election of the professor vested in the moderator of the provincial synod of Aberdeen, with two delegates from each of the eight presbyteries which constitute the

* About the year 1741, the rights and privileges of the regents were called in question, on occasion of the election of Sir William Forbes to the office of civilist: and a process of declarator having been raised before the Court of Session by Sir William and the regents against Principal George Chalmers and the masters on the opposite side of the question, Sir William's election was found good, on account of the regents votes being sustained; and as a separate head of declarator, it was found that the regents had a permanent right to sit in all college meetings, and to vote in all elections, and enjoy every privilege competent to the other members of bishop Elphinston's foundation.

the synod, the principal and dean of the faculty of theology of King's College, together with another of its members chosen by the university for that purpose. —The money belonging to this fund was some time after employed in purchasing lands in the parish of Kinnellar; on which king Charles the First granted a charter, dated 12th March, 1642, in favour of Mr. Adam Barclay, then professor of divinity, and his successors in office. In this charter are inserted the rules relating to the election of a professor, and the powers of the synod, with respect to his office and revenues. The election is to be made on a comparative trial, after issuing programs for that purpose; and the different heads of examination are particularly specified. In 1753, the synod, on the representation of professor Lumsden, the then incumbent, feued the above lands *in perpetuum* to the college.

Revenue of the See of Aberdeen granted to the King's and Marischal Colleges.—Upon the abolition of episcopacy in Scotland, in the year 1641, king Charles I. granted the revenue of the see of Aberdeen to the King's and Marischal Colleges, assigning two third parts to King's College: which gift was ratified in parliament (unprinted act 169), and by his royal charter he united them under the name of "the Ca- "roline University." This union was confirmed by Oliver Cromwell, A. D. 1654, and continued till the Restoration; when act 15. parl. 1. Charles II. and act 1. sess. 2. rescinding all the acts of the parliament 1640, restoring episcopacy, and annulling all acts,

gifts,

gifts, and deeds, in prejudice of the several bishopricks —put an end to that union, and annihilated the object of it. When episcopacy was again abolished at the revolution, the revenue of the bishoprick was differently applied.

Marquis of Huntly Chancellor of Caroline University.—George, marquis of Huntly, was elected chancellor of the Caroline university, by a meeting of the members held in King's College, January 1643.

Members expelled for refusing to sign the Covenant.—During these times of confusion, several members of the college were expelled for refusing to sign the covenant; and among these were Dr. Leslie, principal, and Dr. Forbes, professor of divinity: two of the most distinguished of those Aberdeen doctors (as they were then called), who, in the years 1638 and 1639, had maintained the controversy with the covenanters, and on whose learning and loyalty lord Clarendon has bestowed a very liberal encomium*.—Dr. Leslie was received

* "The clergy (of Scotland) were for the most part corrupted "in their principles; at least, none were countenanced by the "great men, or favoured by the people but such; though it "must be owned their universities, especially Aberdeen, flou-"rished under many excellent scholars, and very learned men." (*History of the Rebellion*, vol. i. p. 63.) Many curious particulars relative to this controversy are to be found in the letters of Principal Baillie, a leader among the covenanting clergy, but a man of a moderate temper and great candour. See also bishop Burnett's preface to the life of bishop Bedel.

received into the family of the earl of Huntly. Circumstances of peculiar hardship attended Dr. Forbes's case. He was the very learned son of that bishop who had so lately restored the original foundation of the college; and having been elected professor of divinity, he had purchased a house in Old Aberdeen, for himself and his successors in that office. As no clause had been inserted in the deed, reserving the use for his lifetime, he was now obliged to leave his own house to a successor!

Singular Visitation of five Colonels, deputed by General Monk.—A singular sort of visitation took place in 1651. General Monk sent five colonels to visit and reform the colleges, viz. Desborough, Fenwick, Mosely, Owen, and Smith. They removed from their offices principal Guild, with several of the professors; not for want of learning or diligence, in both which respects they are highly approved, but for some want of exact conformity to the standard of theological opinion at that time adopted by the army. Principal Row, and the other members who succeeded, are commended as learned and prudent men. In other respects, however, these military visitors treated the college not unkindly. The large building erected at this time on the north-east corner of the court, for the accommodation of the students, is said to have been greatly forwarded by a contribution from general Monk's officers.

Restoration.—On the restoration of monarchy in

1660, the bishops of Aberdeen resumed all their original authority, as chancellors of the university; and many things that had fallen into disorder during the preceding troubles, were now regulated in conformity to bishop Elphinston's foundation, as revived in 1619.

Bishop Scougal.—Under the mild and intelligent superintendance of bishop Scougal, the state of the university seems to have been uncommonly prosperous, and the offices were all filled with men qualified for their stations.

Professor of Oriental Languages.—On the suggestion of this worthy prelate, a professor of oriental languages was established in the university, for the advantage of the students in divinity. A salary of 300 merks was appropriated out of the common funds; and Mr. Patrick Gordon, professor of humanity, was chosen first professor in 1674, and continued to hold both offices.

Course of Education and Discipline at this period.—We find in an historical memoir written about this time under the eye of principal Middleton, a pretty distinct account of the manner in which the education and discipline of the college were then conducted.

"Every Michaelmas (says the writer) the masters
"convene, after the ending of the ten weeks vacation,
"and a program is affixed on the college gates, in-
"viting young scholars to come and dispute for a
"burse (which is their maintenance at the college).
"To these are prescribed exercises or themes to
"make,

" make; then Latin authors in prose and verse to ex-
" pound; and the first four (for so many bursaries are
" void at every commencement) who are reckoned to
" be the best scholars are preferred. In October the
" students begin to convene. They wear a red or
" scarlet gown with hanging sleeves; but those who
" are bursars, a black gown with a girdle. Their
" time of continuance at the university is four years.
" They are ranked into four classes. To those of the
" first class is taught the Greek language. The stu-
" dents of the second class learn logic and metaphy-
" sics. Those of the third class (who at the years'
" end are bachelors of arts), learn ethics and general
" physics. The fourth and highest class completes
" their course with special physics and mathematics.
" The time of the commencement of master of arts is
" in July. Before the day appointed, those who are
" to receive the degree, publish their theses, inviting
" all learned men and scholars to come and dispute."

Mortifications for Bursaries.—In the year 1648, Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, baronet, mortified certain lands for the support of bursars at King's College; and in 1679 Walter Ogilvy of Redhyth bequeathed his whole estate for the same purpose, and for the maintenance of scholars at the school of Fordyce. These were the first considerable additions made to the original number of bursars; and similar donations have since been frequent*.

* The following is a list of the Donors of Bursaries:

Sir

King William's grant of L.200, *&c.*—King William having granted in the year 1695, the sum of L.200 per

Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys	1648
Walter Ogilvy of Redhyth	1679
Mr. Melvill - -	1678
Dr. Watt - - -	1685
Mr. Fullarton - -	1692
Mr. Park - - -	1692
Mr. Watson - -	1699
Dr. Adam - - -	1700
Al. Falconer of Glenfarquhar	1724
Mr. Greig - -	1724
Dr. Fraser - - -	1730
Mr. David Ogilvie -	1723
The Laird of M'Intosh -	1706
Lady Braco - -	1706
Dr. Moir - - -	1783
Alexander Maclean of Coll	1791
Mrs. Udny Duff - -	1794
Rev. Mr. J. Grant - -	1797
Dr. Murray - - -	1797
The Rev. Mr. Johnson -	1803
Dr. Hugh Macleod of Glasgow	1806
The Rev. James Stuart -	1810
The Rev. Robert Findlay -	1811

In addition to the above, Dr. John Milne, a native of Aberdeen, and surgeon in the Honourable East India Company's service, instituted in 1800 a bursary for apprenticing a student of medicine, and has ever since had the satisfaction of seeing it applied to the encouragement of deserving young men.

The legacy by Dr. Hutton of Deptford for the endowment of bursaries, having been litigated by the heir at law, on the plea of his bequest falling under the mortmain act, his intentions in this respect have not been realized.

per annum, for the behoof of King's College, a considerable part of this sum was afterwards assigned as a salary to the professor of oriental languages: and the college was thereby relieved from the expence of the salary which had been provided for this office at the time of its first institution in 1674. His majesty at the same time assumed the right of patronage to the office to himself and successors.

Attempt to found a Professorship of Mathematics.—But before many years had elapsed, the society thought proper (though with some prudent cautions) again to burden their funds with a similar salary, and almost of the same extent, for the establishment of a professor of mathematics in their seminary. The minutes of election, which took place in 1703, shew at once their good will to promote the interests of learning, and the scanty means with which they were furnished. It bears, that "the meeting taking into their considera-
" tion how much it may be for the advancement of
" learning, and interest of the college, that mathema-
" tics should be taught therein, nominate, appoint,
" and empower Mr. Thomas Bower to profess and
" teach mathematics, both publicly and privately in
" said college: and for the encouragement of the said
" Mr. Thomas Bower, until a fitter and better fund
" be procured, do hereby promise and engage unani-
" mously, to give and accommodate the said Mr.
" Thomas Bower in his diet at the college table, du-
" ring the winter session of the said college, as also
" to pay him two hundred merks Scots out of the col-

" lege revenue; in case only that it appear, after " clearing the yearly procuration accounts, that the " balance can bear the same*.

Royal Visitation, 1716.—Strong marks of disaffection to government were shewn by some of the masters of King's College, in the time of the rebellion 1716; and a royal commission for visiting both colleges having been issued in July of that year, Dr. George Middleton, principal of King's College, with three of the professors, were removed from their offices. Mr. Chalmers, minister of Kilwinning, succeeded as principal, by virtue of a royal presentation, accompanied with a commission to the magistrates of Aberdeen, and certain ministers in both towns, to grant him admission to that office. On the 22d November, 1717, he appeared at King's College, accompanied by those commissioners—produced his presentation; and the foundation oath was administered to him by the sub-principal of the college.

Low Condition of the College Revenue and Fabric; 1717.—Next year, principal Chalmers was appointed to repair to London, and, in name of the society, " to " represent

* Dr. Bower, whose reputation for mathematical science stood very high, found interest to procure a royal patent or presentation to his office; and a salary was assigned him arising from a tax on ale and beer within the borough of Old Aberdeen. No provision could be more embarrassing and improper than this. Dr. Bower, after contending for some years with the difficulties of his situation, demitted his office, and withdrew to London.

" represent to their gracious sovereign the low and " sinking condition of the college revenue, the ruinous " condition of the fabric thereof, and the mean sala- " ries of the masters, and supplicate his majesty's " royal bounty*."

Dr. Fraser's Munificence to the College.—No effectual relief was obtained by this application; but the bounty of a very liberal private benefactor in some measure supplied the defect. Dr. James Fraser of Chelsea, the son of a clergyman in the county of Inverness, had acquired in various literary stations, a pretty considerable fortune; and after making ample provision for his family, was induced, in the evening of life, to extend his bounty to the university in which he had received his eduction.

In the course of a few years he expended about L.1400 in repairing and furnishing the library, and in the construction of that commodious and not inelegant range of building which extends along the south side of the College Court. Dr. Fraser's benefactions took place about the year 1725; and he himself died in 1731, at the age of 86.

Review

* Previous to the annexation of the bishops' rents by act of parliament 1641, the earl of Sutherland and other noblemen, who were commissioned to enquire into the revenues of the colleges, reported that the proper yearly expences of the university and King's College, exceeded their revenue by L.285 : 7 : 1. This deficiency seems to have been the motive for granting to the united colleges the bishops' rents; of which they were deprived by the rescinding acts of Charles II. above mentioned.

Review of Plan of Discipline and Education, 1753.—In the year 1753, the whole plan of discipline and education in King's College was brought under review for the purpose of improvement. A great number of statutes relative to these objects, since known by the name of "The New Regulations," were enacted by the college, and submitted to the examination of the public. In framing these regulations, the celebrated Dr. Reid's opinion and views respecting education, are supposed in general to have prevailed. It was determined that the session of college should be prolonged from five months to seven, beginning on the first Monday of October, and ending in May: that the students should all lodge within the college, in chambers provided for them at an easy rent; the college gates being locked at nine, and the chambers visited after that hour, by one of the professors in weekly rotation: that the students should all board at a common table kept within the college, at a regulated and very moderate rate, where one or more of the professors were to be constantly present: that the strictest punctuality should be observed by the students in their attendance at lectures, during the whole of the session: that less time than usual should be spent on the logic and metaphysics of the schools, and a great part of the second year be employed in acquiring the elements of natural history in all its branches: that the professors of Greek and humanity should open classes for the more advanced students, during the three last years of their course: that a museum of natural history should be fitted up, and furnished with specimens, for the instruction

struction of the students; and that a collection of instruments and machines relative to natural philosophy, and a chemical laboratory for exhibiting experiments in that science, should be provided with all convenient speed.—For some years the good effects of these regulations seemed very flattering, and the masters thought they might congratulate themselves upon "having "under their care a set of the most regular and dili- "gent students to be found any where in the king's "dominions*." But considerable difficulties by degrees occurred in conducting the economy of the public table. It was not found that lodging so many young men together within the walls of the college was attended with all the expected advantages. The number of students diminished apace: some were disgusted with the strict discipline and regular attendance required: many could not support the expence of the prolonged session: it had been thought proper in order to enable the bursars to defray this increased expence, that the small bursaries in the gift of the college should be united, and two of them conferred on the same bursar: doubts began to be entertained concerning the legality of this proceeding: the bursaries were therefore separated again: the length of the session was (reluctantly on the part of the college) reduced to its former period of five months, and the students left at liberty to lodge and board in the town or within the college, as they might chuse; but all the other

* Printed memorial to lord Findlater, chancellor, relative to the union 1755.

other regulations enacted by the statutes in 1753, relative to studies, discipline, and attendance, continue still in force, with a salutary influence.

PRESENT STATE.

Revenue.—It has been already mentioned that the revenue of the university was originally set apart for the support of forty-two persons, of whom twenty-one were in priest's orders. These are now reduced to twenty-three, in consequence of the change in religion, and deficiency of funds. Since the time of king James VI. no additional provision has been made, either by public grants or private donations, for the founded members of this literary seminary, except L.93 : 6 : 8 sterling, included in king William's mortification of the bishops' rents; and L.91 : 8s. sterling, granted by queen Anne, and hitherto continued by her royal successors.—Of two of the parishes united to the university, the tithes have been long since exhausted in providing legal stipends for their ministers; more than one half of a third parish is overblown with sand; and no less than three additional stipends have been brought upon the other tithes belonging to the university, by new erections of parishes; so that the whole revenue for the support of the buildings, the sustenance of the principal and seven professors; thirteen bursars in arts; a provisor and two servants; all the public and necessary annual expences of the college, and stipends for eight ministers, consists only of the tithes of six parishes and a half; about L.63 from feu duties and annuities; L.184 : 14 : 8 from royal bounties since the revolution,

revolution, and the interest of the fund arising from the sale of superiorities and patronages. Of these funds too, the tithes (originally the most considerable branch) are much exhausted, in consequence of the augmentations lately awarded by the court of teinds, to the ministers of those parishes, whereof the college are titulars of the tithes; insomuch that all now remaining of them to the college is L.340 sterling, and 193 bolls of victual; but which is still liable to future augmentations of ministers' stipends*. The benefactions to the college have chiefly been given for providing new bursaries; insomuch that the stock of these mortifications is at present worth L.16 or L.17,000 sterling. The rights of these mortifications are vested in the corporate body of the college, who are likewise patrons of most of them, but derive no benefit from them except the small honorium or fee to the teaching masters†.

Greek Class.—By the ancient practice of the university, the regents not only taught in rotation the several

* Since the above account was drawn up, almost the whole of the college tythes being exhausted, his majesty has been graciously pleased to grant a compensation in lieu of them.

† Lesser donations for the purchase of books, philosophical apparatus, &c. have been made at different times: these it would be tedious to enumerate, though the names of the donors are carefully preserved; but it would be ungrateful to omit the name of Dr. Murray of Philadelphia, who lately bequeathed a sum of money, burdened, however, with the support of his wife during her life, for the maintenance of a bursar, and of a lecturer in the college chapel.

ral branches of science, which constituted the philosophical course, but Greek also. It was not till about the beginning of the present century that this department was allotted, by a royal and parliamentary visitation, to a separate professor. As few of the students who now enter college, make any previous proficiency in Greek, their first year is generally devoted to the study of its elements; the professor meeting with the first or elementary class three hours every day during the session, Saturdays and Sundays excepted. It had once been customary to give a fourth hour daily for the benefit of more advanced students; but from various causes this practice fell into disuse. Within these few years, it has been revived under a different form: the bursars of the higher classes are required to attend a second lecture twice every week, during the whole of their course, and few of the other students fail to attend it. They are examined in the higher classics, which the professor reads and explains; making occasional remarks on the peculiarities of the language, and giving lectures on Grecian history and antiquities.

Philosophical Course.—Though Greek became the department of a separate professor about the beginning of this century; Philosophy, in its threefold division, as comprehending the sciences of quantity, of matter, and of mind, has continued to be taught by the same person during three successive sessions. This method has always had its zealous advocates; in the number of these was the late Dr. Reid, who had experience of both

both plans, having taught for many years in this university, and afterwards in that of Glasgow. It certainly possesses some advantages, especially when considered in its relation to the local circumstances of this university. In a village, where parents cannot have acquaintance or relations, to whom they may intrust the superintendance of their children's conduct, it seems necessary that the connection betwixt the professor and student should be more close and intimate than can be the case in the rapid rotation of annual classes. The teacher being acquainted with the abilities and literary attainments of his pupil, and the student accustomed to the method and arrangement of his teacher, they may each be enabled to pass over with advantage a larger extent of subject than could otherwise be accomplished in the same time. It seems to afford additional incitements to application and diligence. The student, conscious that his conduct is watched with an almost parental solicitude, is anxious to secure the approbation of one with whom he is more than transiently connected. The teacher considering himself as solely responsible for the progress and improvement of his pupil, is particularly interested in his attainments, zealous to convey important and useful instruction, and to fix solid and virtuous principles. Nevertheless, the college impressed with a sense of the importance and extent of the sciences, which thus alternately devolve on the same person, and considering that in the present state of knowledge it is not probable he can attain eminence in each, whatever his assiduity or talents may be, has, as a preparatory step towards

d farther

farther improvement (if it shall be found such), resolved to fix for a time the mathematical class*.

Though the method of teaching and arrangement of subjects adopted by each professor, must necessarily vary to a certain degree, yet that generally practised in this university seems well calculated to lead the minds of youth in a natural progression to the attainment of useful science. The professors in the philosophical department teach three hours every day of the week, except Saturday and Sunday; on Sunday they, as well as the professor of Greek, lecture one hour on some subject connected with natural theology.

Semi Class.—The second year of the academical course is employed in teaching the elements of the mathematical sciences.—The students are supposed to be previously acquainted with the art of computation as taught at our schools; they are now instructed in the theory of numbers and the foundation of the rules of arithmetic. Algebra, the elements of plane and solid geometry, trigonometry, mensuration of plane surfaces and solids, with spherics, are included in the business of this year. The professor gives occasional lectures on geology and the meteorological branches of natural history.

Tertian Class.—After a brief recapitulation of the subjects of the former year, the professor proceeds in the

* Since 1799, the philosophical classes have each been taught by a separate professor, who continues permanent in his department.

the third year to dialling, conic sections, and fluxions: exercises in the last are continued through the remainder of the course. Experimental philosophy in its several branches, mechanics, hydrostatics, pneumatics, aerology, magnetism, electricity, &c. occupies the remaining part of the session.—The philosophical apparatus has lately been much improved by donations from alumni; and by means of a considerable annual revenue now set apart for that purpose, promises to be soon placed upon the most respectable footing.

Magistrand Class.—The science of astronomy employs the beginning of the fourth year, and completes the physical part of the course. Under the term moral philosophy, which forms the principal part of the instruction of the fourth year, is comprehended every thing that relates to the abstract sciences, or the philosophy of mind; particularly pneumatology, or an analysis of the mental faculties, whether of an intellectual or active nature; natural theology; ethics, or practical morality; logic, including rhetoric, together with economics, jurisprudence, and politics. According to the ancient practice of this university, logic, and the abstract sciences, took precedence, in the order of the curriculum, of mathematics, and natural philosophy. It was then believed that the elements of the other sciences must be taught to disadvantage, while the student remained ignorant of the art of reasoning, and the rules of judging: but mankind are now fully convinced of the inefficiency of the syllogistic art, to guide the understanding in the discovery

of truth. The logic which can answer this end, must have for its ground-work, all arts and sciences, and be founded on an analysis and natural history of the intellectual faculties. Every illustration and maxim must be derived from these sources; and its rules can be understood no farther than the several sciences, which it reviews and criticises, are understood. Nor is a previous knowledge of its precepts necessary towards acquiring the elements of science. Man exercises his understanding before he is formally instructed in the rules of reasoning. Upon these accounts, logic, together with the other abstract sciences, seems more naturally to occupy the last than the first part of a philosophical course; and actuated by such considerations, about 40 years ago, the teachers at this university adopted the above mentioned arrangement of subjects.

Humanity Class.—During the whole of their academical course, the students attend, three hours every week, the professor of humanity, who reads and explains the higher classics.

Session of College.—The duration of the session of college has been for a considerable time past, five months, commencing on the first Monday of November. At first view this may appear rather a short period to allow of the prelections which have been mentioned; but it should be observed, that the professors teach three hours daily, without any vacation during the whole session.

Theology.—The theological session commences about Christmas, and closes the second week of April. During its continuance, the professors of divinity in King's and Marischal Colleges, lecture alternately four days in the week; the same students attending both. By these means, during the four years in which the study of divinity is generally prosecuted, a pretty complete course of theology is gone through in the following order: The evidences of natural and revealed religion; scripture criticism; the system of theology; and ecclesiastical history; and the pastoral care.

Oriental Languages.—During the theological session, the students who attend the hall have also access to lectures in oriental languages. No honorarium or fee is paid by the students in the theological department. In the Greek and philosophical departments, the fee paid by the bursars, is from a guinea to a guinea and a half; the minimum paid by the free students is at present two guineas.

Law.—The suppression of the professorship of canon law has already been noticed: that of civil law still subsists; but the study of it not being prosecuted in this part of the country, no lectures have been given for a long time past in this branch of science.

Medicine.—Medicine has hitherto been a branch of education which the university have been anxious to promote; but from different causes it has not succeeded; chiefly owing to the detached situation of the

college, with other particular local disadvantages, and there being but one medical professor in the university. Several of the incumbents have made various attempts; and amongst others, the late Dr. John Gregory of Edinburgh, at that time professor of medicine in King's College, who with Dr. David Skene, physician in Aberdeen (an eminent anatomist), opened a class in the town of Aberdeen for teaching anatomy, physiology, and the practice of medicine; but they met with no success, and were obliged to relinquish the plan. A similar attempt was made in the year 1792, by Dr. Chalmers, which likewise failed. And at present, the several obstacles which then occurred, still exist.

Hours of Teaching.—The classes for Greek, natural and civil history, natural philosophy, moral philosophy, and logic, taught by the four regents, meet three hours each day from the 1st November to the beginning of April, excepting Tuesdays and Saturdays, when there is no afternoon meeting.

The two classes for mathematics meet one hour a day for each class, during the same period.

A popular course of natural philosophy is delivered every second year, consisting of three hours weekly for five months.

A course of chemistry is taught for about four months, and three lectures delivered weekly.

The session for divinity continues for about three months, during which two lectures are delivered to the students every week by each of the professors in King's and Marischal colleges.

Degrees.—The candidates for degrees in arts, if they have studied at this college, must, by express statutes, have regularly attended the curriculum or philosophy course, as well as have undergone a strict examination in its various branches. If they pass this examination with honour, they generally receive the degree publicly from the professor who has carried them through their course;' when each delivers an oration either in Latin or English, upon some subject of a philosophical nature. The degree in arts is also granted to those who have studied at other universities, upon the certification of at least two respectable graduates of the same rank, that the candidate is in every respect well qualified for the honour. Degrees in law, medicine, and theology, are conferred upon the similar certification of respectable graduates of the same rank, or in consequence of examination by the promoters in those various faculties. They are also sometimes bestowed without regard to standing in any university, as a mark of respect upon men eminent in their profession, or distinguished by their literary talents.

Library.—The library to which all the students have ready access is a valuable collection of books in the various departments of literature. By means of the Stationers' Hall act, and the application of a considerable annual revenue, it is well supplied with modern publications. It is particularly well stocked with old and valuable works of science, having been enriched by the libraries of the founder, the Scougalls, father and son, and various other eminent literary characters.

Museum.—A museum of natural history has been gradually furnished for the use of the students, with a pretty large assortment of specimens in mineralogy and *zoology*, many of them bestowed by private donors. There is also a collection under the name of a Museum of Antiquities, containing Greek and Roman coins, casts in sulphur from ancient gems, and some of the more valuable books of engravings, relative to this subject. A considerable addition was made to this collection, about the year 1790, by a donation of the coins and medals of the late reverend Dr. Cuming of Andover.

Elocution, French, &c.—The professors encourage the best masters for elocution, French, and other branches of education, not commonly reckoned academical, for the instruction of such students as may wish to apply to them.

Discipline and Internal Economy.—The students at this college since the period of its foundation have been distinguished into two classes: *1st*, the bursars; 2d, the free scholars, who are known by the name of libertines. Of the bursars, thirteen were instituted by the founder; the rest derive their support from sums of money, or lands mortified at various periods by different donors for that purpose. Some of these donors have retained the right of presentation to these bursaries to themselves and heirs; others have vested it solely in the college. Those bursaries which are in the gift of the college, and which amount to about

50,

50, are disposed of according to merit, ascertained by a comparative trial in various Latin exercises. This competition takes place at the commencement of each session, and provides annually for twelve or thirteen bursars, being a fourth part of the whole number. The number of students who attend the philosophical course is from 100 to 130; that of students of divinity from 50 to 70. The founded bursars were anciently distinguished from the libertines by wearing a black gown instead of a red; and were also obliged to stand porters at the college gate; but these marks of inferiority are now discontinued. The bursars have to discharge several public duties, with the exception of which, they are in every respect upon the same footing as the libertines. They are in their turns the censors in their respective classes, which office obliges them to mark those who are absent at the hours of teaching, or who are guilty of any other act of delinquency. A class of the more advanced among them assume in their turns the office of *public censor*; the duties of which are to mark the absentees from public prayers, and to take notice of the more public acts of delinquency. Every morning during the session there are public prayers previous to the hours of teaching, in the college chapel, at which all the students regularly attend. The duty of public prayers is taken for a week in succession by the regents, and professors of humanity; the person thus officiating is called Hebdomader, and is considered as the more special superintendant of the morals of the students during his continuance in office. In the same chapel, the students assemble on Sundays,

Sundays, and proceed to church, conducted by their respective professors; but there being no religious test required of students at their admission into the university, such as are not of the established church are permitted to attend any place of worship which their parents direct. There is also a weekly meeting in the same place for public discipline, exercised by the sub-principal and regents; on which occasion, the students of the higher classes deliver orations on various subjects. Formerly a very large proportion of the students lodged within the college, and ate at a public table, at which the bursars were all obliged to board, and the Hebdomader superintended; but the institution was found to be attended with so many inconveniences, that it has been for some time abolished. At present, though there are no restrictions upon the students, in regard to lodging, yet in general the more opulent live within the college, where a boarding house is kept for their accommodation. The rate of boarding at this house is L.6 per quarter; at various houses kept in the town, it is from L.3 to L.4 a quarter.

THE above account comprehends a brief detail of every circumstance relative to this ancient seminary of learning, which the compilers of it have deemed worthy of public notice.

KING'S COLLEGE,
7th Nov. 1798.

List

List of the Chancellors, Rectors, Principals, eminent Professors, and Alumni of the University.

CHANCELLORS.

1. William Elphinston, the founder, 1482.
2. Bishop Alexander Gordon, 1516.
3. Bishop Gavin Dunbar, 1518.
4. Bishop William Stewart, 1532.
5. Bishop William Gordon, 1546.
6. Bishop David Cunningham.
7. Bishop Peter Blackburn.
8. Bishop Alexander Forbes.
9. Patrick Forbes of Corse, 1618.
10. Bishop Adam Ballenden.
11. George, marquis of Huntly, 1643.
12. Bishop David Mitchell, 1662.
13. Alexander Burnett, 1663.
14. Patrick Scougall, 1664.
15. George Halliburton, 1682,
16. The earl of Errol, 1700.
17. The earl of Errol, son of the former, 1705.
18. Archibald, earl of Ilay, 1716.
19. The duke of Roxburgh elected. Declined.
20. James lord Deskfoord, afterwards earl of Findlater and Seafield, 1761.
21. Alexander, duke of Gordon, 1793.

RECTORS.

1. Andrew Liell, 1498.
2. William Strathachin, 1499.

3. Alexander Cullan, 1506.
4. Alexander Galloway, 1516 and 1521.
5. Gilbert Strathauchin, 1531.
6. Alexander Spittal, 1537.
7. Alexander Hay, 1539.
8. Jacobus Strathachan, de Behelvie, 1542.
9. Alexander Gallaway, 1549.
10. Nicolas Hay, 1592.
11. John Strauchane, 1602, 1605, 1609, 1610, 1613, 1619.
12. John Leitch, 1619.
13. Joannes Strauchanus. Uncertain when in office.
14. James Sandilands, 1626, 1627, 1628, 1630, 1631.
15. Dr. John Forbes of Corse, 1634.
16. Dr. William Guild, 1635, 1639—1644.
17. Dr. Alexander Scroggie, 1636.
18. Dr. Arthur Johnston, 1637.
19. Dr. Alexander Ross, 1638.
20. Mr. David Lindsay, 1645, 1647, 1648.
21. Mr. William Scroggie, 1663—1665, and 1674.
22. Mr. John Menzies, 1667 and 1677.
23. Mr. Robert Reynolds, 1669.
24. Mr. George Nicholson, 1672 and 1673.
25. Mr. James Scougall, 1684.
26. Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, 1698.
27. Mr. Archibald Forbes of Putachie, 1708.
28. Sir William Forbes of Craigievar, 1709, 1710.
29. John Farquharson, Esq. of Invercauld, 1711.
30. Arthur Forbes of Echt, Esq. 1718—1722, 1724, —1726.

31.

31. John Paton of Grandhome, Esq. 1728, 1730, 1732, 1733.

32. George Middleton of Seaton, Esq. 1762—1767.

33. Sir William Forbes of Craigievar, 1786.

34. Alexander Burnett, of Kemnay, Esq. 1787—1795.

35. Sir John Macpherson, Bart. 1795—1797.

PRINCIPALS.

1. Hector Boeth or Boyes.
2. Mr. William Hay.
3. Mr. John Bisset.
4. Mr. Alexander Anderson.
5. Mr. Alexander Arbuthnot.
6. Mr. Walter Stewart.
7. Mr. David Rait.
8. Dr. William Leslie.
9. Dr. William Guild.
10. Mr. John Row.
11. Mr. William Rait.
12. Mr. Alexander Middleton,
13. Dr. George Middleton.
14. Mr. George Chalmers.
15. Dr. John Chalmers.

EMINENT PROFESSORS AND ALUMNI.

John Vaus, first grammarian in the university, who subscribes the second foundation, 1531. His Latin grammar published at Paris, 1522, is well known.

Mr. James Lawson, sub-principal, 1569. He was called to Edinburgh to succeed the famous John Knox.

Mr. Robert Maitland, regent in the college, and afterwards dean of Aberdeen. In consequence of the grant by James VI. of the deanery, he resigned it in favour of the college, 1579.

Mr. John Leslie, commissary of Aberdeen, afterwards bishop of Ross, and one of the senators of the college of justice, celebrated for his fidelity to the unfortunate queen Mary, and for his History of Scotland, was canonist in this university.

James Cheyne, who after going through a regular course of study at this university, taught philosophy at Paris in the college of St. Barbe; from whence he was translated to Douay, and became L.L.D. and P.P. &c. In 1573, he published at Douay, a compend of Aristotle's philosophy. He also published at the same place two books on the terrestrial and celestial globes, a geographical description of the earth, and a commentary on Aristotle's metaphysics.

The famous Mr. Andrew Cant, grammarian or humanist, 1614.

Mr. William Douglas, professor of divinity in 1644. He printed the following treatises at Aberdeen: 1st, Vindiciæ veritatis; 2d, Vindiciæ Psalmodiæ Ecclesiasticæ divinæ; 3d, Academiarum vindiciæ; and several other tracts.

Mr. George Nicolson, of Cluny and Kemnay, elected civilist in 1673; was afterwards one of the senators of the college of justice by the title of Lord Kemnay.

Mr.

Mr. Henry Scougall, son of Patrick Scougall, bishop of Aberdeen. After completing his studies at this university, he was immediately elected a regent, and afterwards professor of divinity. This amiable man, whose works are no less distinguished by their piety and learning, than by purity and elegance of stile, was cut off at the early age of 28, when the promising hopes which had been formed of his talents and genius were just begun to be realized. He died, A. D. 1678.

Mr. James Scougall, civilist in 1684, afterwards one of the senators of the college of justice, by the title of Lord Whitehill.

The learned Sir George Mackenzie, King's Advocate, and lord of the Scots privy council, anno 1674, received the first part of his education in this university. To him his country is indebted for many valuable works, illustrative of its laws, customs, and government.

Mr. George Gordon of Haddo, an alumnus, and regent of the university in the year 1658. He was president of the Court of Session 1681; and in 1682 was appointed lord high chancellor of Scotland, and afterwards created earl of Aberdeen.

Dr. Thomas Bower, mentioned in the account. Being an eminent mathematician, he was employed by the Scots parliament about the time of the Union, in calculations relating to the Equivalent.

Mr. John Kerr, professor of Greek from 1719 to 1754, when he became professor of humanity in Edinburgh. He was an elegant classical scholar.

The Rev. Dr. John Macpherson, minister of Slate,

and author of the well known dissertations on the antiquities of Scotland, and several beautiful Latin poems, was educated in this university, 1724.

Dr. John Gregory, regent, and afterwards professor of medicine in this university, before he was translated to Edinburgh. His literary character and professional abilities are well known.

The celebrated Dr. Thomas Reid was many years professor of philosophy in this university before he was translated to Glasgow.

David Dalrymple, L.L. D. civilist in 1760, and afterwards one of the senators of the college of justice, by the title of Lord Westhall.

Dr. Alexander Gerard, professor of divinity, who was translated from the same chair in Marischal College in 1771, and whose writings are well known to the public. He died in 1795.

Dr. James Dunbar, an alumnus, and thirty years professor of philosophy in this university, author of "Essays on the history of mankind in rude and uncultivated ages," &c. died 1798.

In the present enumeration of eminent and learned men, particular notice should be taken of the late Mr. Thomas Gordon, an *alumnus*, who died A. D. 1797, having been professor of humanity, and latterly of philosophy, in this university, for no less a period than 61 years. He continued to fulfil the duties of his office till the time of his death, which happened in the 83d year of his age. His attainments in the sciences, and in polite literature; his abilities as a teacher; his suavity of manners and social disposition, are all well known

known, and will be long remembered. The compilers of the foregoing account embrace with pleasure this opportunity of paying their tribute of respect to his memory, and of acknowledging that they are indebted to him for a great part of the materials from which the account has been digested.

This section might be drawn out to a great length, especially if it were to include living characters of eminence. Many other men of literature who have been professors, or who have had their education in this university, will be found mentioned in professor John Kerr's *Donaides*, published at Edinburgh 1725.

LIST OF THE PRESENT INCUMBENTS.

Roderick M'Leod, D. D.—*Principal.*
Gilbert Gerard, D. D.—*Divinity.*
Alexander Dauney, L.L. D.—*Civil Law.*
Sir A. Bannerman, M. D.—*Medicine.*
William Jack, M. D.—*Sub-principal.*—*Moral Philosophy.*
Mr. William Ogilvie—*Humanity.*
Mr. James Bentley.—*Oriental Languages.*
Hugh M'Pherson, M. D.—*Greek.*
Mr. William Duncan.—*Mathematics.*
Mr. William Paul.—*Natural Philosophy.*

No. II.

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

AND

PRESENT STATE

OF THE

MARISCHAL COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.

Anno 1798.

FOUNDATION.

THE Marischal College and University of Aberdeen was founded and endowed by George, earl Marischal of Scotland, by charter dated the 2d day of April, 1593. By this charter, the earl conveys to the principal and masters of his new college, and to any other members to be afterwards added to them, the houses, garden, church, &c. which belonged to the Franciscan or Grey friars, lying on the east side of the Broadgate of Aberdeen; also, the lands, crofts, tenements, and feu-duties formerly belonging to the Dominican or Black friars, and the Carmelites or White friars of Aberdeen, whose convents were respectively situated in

in the streets called the Schoolhill and Green, but demolished about the period of the reformation. The property of the Franciscans had been acquired by the town of Aberdeen; and their buildings being more entire and better situated than the others, were presented by the community to earl Marischal, as a proper scite for the college. The charter also contains a grant of the property of the Carmelites lying at Bervie, where they had a small convent, and of the revenues of the chapel of St. Mary at Cowie, both in Mearns: but these last mentioned were resumed by the son and successor of the founder.

Original Members.—The original members consisted of a principal, three regents or masters in philosophy and languages, six bursars, an œconomus, and cook.

Duty of the Principal.—The duty of the principal is declared to be to attend to the whole university, and to every one of its members, and to exercise, with regard to them, ordinary jurisdiction. He is required to be well informed in the Holy Scriptures, in order to qualify him for opening the mysteries of religion, and the hidden treasures of the word of God; to be well skilled in the languages, especially the Hebrew and Syriac, which were to be taught by him once every week. He is appointed to explain the sacred writings one hour every Monday; to illustrate from the Greek the physiology of Aristotle, beginning where the third or highest regent had left off, to which was to be added a short explication of anatomy; to teach the prin-

ciples

ciples of geography, chronology, and astronomy, as also the Hebrew grammar, together with some practical application of the rules; to confer the degree of master of arts on those students, who, after passing through the usual course of four years, should be found deserving of that distinction; and to superintend the public discipline of the college. He is likewise in the charter, required, together with the chancellor, rector, and dean of faculty, to prescribe the authors to be explained to the students, in the languages in which they originally wrote.

Duty of the Regents.—The regent next to the principal was to teach the elements of arithmetic and geometry; explain from the Greek the ethics and politics of Aristotle, with the books of *Cicero de officiis*; and to conclude the course with Aristotle's physics. The duty of the third in order was, to instruct the students in logic, and exemplify his precepts by reading the best Greek and Latin authors; also, to exercise them frequently in composing and declaiming in both languages. The employment of the fourth was, to teach the elements of Greek, along with reading some of the easiest authors, both in that and the Latin tongue; to prescribe exercises for composition in those languages; and to finish with a short compend of logic.

Other Duties.—The principal and regents, along with the bursars, are required to eat and sleep *intra septa Academiæ*, where none of their wives or maid-servants are to be admitted. The students are appointed to

convene,

convene, along with their masters in the several schools, at six in the morning, from the 1st of October, when the session was to commence; to speak only Latin or Greek in public conversation; to wear gowns; to carry no arms or offensive weapons; to obey the laws enacted by the faculty; and for transgressions, to suffer expulsion, and pecuniary or corporal punishment.

Superior Officers.—The college is subjected by this charter to the authority of a chancellor, rector, and dean of faculty, who are appointed to hold a visitation three times in the year, for the correction of abuses: and these officers are declared to have the same powers, privileges, and jurisdiction, with those of St. Andrews, Glasgow, or any other university. The rector is to be chosen by all the *suppositi* of the university, divided into four nations, those of Mar, Buchan, Moray, and Angus. These are required to elect four procurators or representatives, and these to elect the rector and four assessors. The dean of faculty is to be chosen in the same *comitia*, or assembly of the whole university, but by the chancellor, rector, principal, professors, and minister of New Aberdeen. It is requisite that the principal and minister of New Aberdeen should always be present.

Confirmations of the Foundation.—In the succeeding General Assembly of the church, which met at Dundee on the 6th of April, in the same year 1593, the new institution was approved of, by an act in the following terms: "The Generall Assemblie of the Kirk

"having

" having imployit certane of the godlie and best
" learned brether of thair number to the sighting and
" considering of this fundatioune and erectione, fol-
" lowing their judgement and approbatioun thairof,
" after reasoning had in the matter, hes given and
" gives thair consent and approbatioun thairto, and
" approves and affirmes the same in all the heidis
" thairof, after the tenour and forme of the samen."

The subsequent confirmation by parliament runs in these words: " In the current Parliament halden at
" Edinburgh, within the Tolbuith thairof, upon the
" twenty-first day of July, the yeir of God one thou-
" sand five hundred fourscore threttene yeirs. Our
" soveraine Lord and estaitis of this present Parlia-
" ment, understanding that George Erle Marischal,
" Lord Keith, &c. has laitlie foundit and erectit ane
" College within the burgh of New Aberdeen, &c.:
" Thairfor his Hienes and estaitis foresaidis, ratifies,
" approvis, and confirmes the said fundatioune and
" erectione, with all the clauses, articles, heidis, and
" conditionis thairin contenit; and farder givis and
" disponis thairto, all freedomes, franchises, liberties,
" free privilegis and jurisdictioun, that to anie free
" college within this realme be law and practicke is
" knawin to appertene, &c. &c." Another act of parliament, passed after the Restoration, in 1661, confirms the foundation and privileges of the new university, almost in the same words.

Other Professorships founded.—In consequence of the provision made for that purpose by the original charter,

ter, several new professorships were afterwards added, viz. a fourth regent, who, by the commission of parliament in 1700, for visiting schools and colleges, was appointed to be fixed professor of Greek. A professorship of mathematics was founded in 1613 by Dr. Duncan Liddell, a native of Aberdeen, and eminent scholar, who had been professor of medicine and mathematics in the university of Helmstadt. A professorship of divinity, founded in 1616, by Mr. Patrick Copland, minister of Norton in Northamptonshire. A professorship in medicine, by the earl Marischal, in 1700. A professorship of oriental languages, by Mr. Gilbert Ramsay, rector of Christ Church, in the island of Barbadoes, in 1723. And lately, in 1793, a professorship in chemistry, by Mrs. Blackwell, widow of Dr. Thomas Blackwell, formerly principal of the university.

A few years since, Sir William Fordyce, physician in London, also endowed a lectureship on subjects tending to improve the agriculture and manufactures of Scotland; but the salary being liferented by one of his relations, it has not as yet been carried into effect. The beforementioned Mrs. Blackwell also appointed a premium of L.10 sterling, to be annually bestowed on the person who should compose and deliver in the English language, the best discourse upon a given literary subject; the first five being prescribed by herself, and the succeeding ones to be proposed by the university. This has accordingly taken place for these two years, and will be continued regularly hereafter. The last year's prize being adjudged to Mr. William Duncan, one of the masters of the grammar school of

Aberdeen,

Aberdeen, and that for the current year to the Rev. George Skene Keith, D. D. minister of the gospel at Keith-hall.

Bursaries.—In 1644, Sir Thomas Crombie of Kemnay, made a donation to the magistrates and town-council of Aberdeen, as trustees and patrons of certain lands in the neighbourhood, as an augmentation to the salaries of the professors, and a provision for eight bursars in the university, and also for a minister of the college, or Grey friars kirk. This is supposed to have been originally a weekly lectureship in theology, chiefly intended for the benefit of the students, as that church was never a parochial one, but along with the other buildings of the Grey friars, was conveyed by lord Marischal's charter to the college. This provision, the town-council, who are now patrons of both offices, seem from the beginning to have joined to Mr. Copland's appointment for a professor of divinity, so that hitherto they have been always occupied by one person. Various other mortifications, or pious donations, for the education of bursars, have been made from time to time. In the year 1711, Dr. Gilbert Burnett, bishop of Salisbury, by his last will, bequeathed the sum of 20,000 merks, as a fund for the education of four bursars in philosophy, and two in divinity, in this university, "*in remembrance of my education there,*" as he expresses it; the patronage to belong to the family of Burnett of Leys, of which he was descended. Four bursaries in philosophy, of L.15 sterling each, and four in divinity, of L.25 sterling each, were also endowed

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dowed by Mr. Gilbert Ramsay, formerly mentioned: the patronage of which is vested in the family of Ramsay of Balmain. Besides the above, there are four in philosophy, left by Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum, under the patronage of that family; four by John Turner, Esq. of Dantzick; six by Dr. Duncan Liddel; and of late, two, by a gentleman of the name of Lorimer; and one by Dr. Ruddiman of Madras, with various others, amounting in all to between sixty and seventy in philosophy, from fifty merks in value to L.8 or L.9, together with eight or ten in divinity. Many of the smaller bursaries are, however, in the way of being increased: some of them by the rise of the value of the lands in which they were vested; and others, by being allowed to remain vacant for some time, the interest being yearly added to the capital. Of these philosophy bursaries, such as are in the gift of private patrons, are disposed of by them at pleasure; while those under the patronage of the town and college, between forty and fifty, are bestowed by annual competition about the end of October, upon the most deserving candidates, and as they continue for four years, ten or twelve become vacant every session. There are also two bursaries of L.12 sterling each, for the education of students in the higher parts of mathematics, founded by John Gray, Esq. of London, in 1768; one of which is disposed of every year, by comparative trial, among such students as have attended the two first mathematical classes.

Union of the two Universities.—The King's and Marischal

rischal colleges of Aberdeen being distinct and separate universities, totally independent of each other, though scarcely a mile distant, it has often been proposed and attempted to unite them into one university, or into one college. After the abolition of episcopacy in Scotland, king Charles I. by a charter, dated the 8th November, 1641, makes a grant to both universities of the rents of the bishopric of Aberdeen, for augmenting the salaries of the masters and other purposes, and unites *both universities* into *one*, in all time coming to be called THE CAROLINE UNIVERSITY; with this provision, that both shall enjoy and exercise all their primitive powers, privileges, and particular jurisdiction, which they had held and exercised before the said union took place. The two colleges acquiesced in this union and erection, which was confirmed by an act of parliament of the same month and year. They accordingly enjoyed the conjunct possession of the bishop's rents for several years, and also of another donation afterwards granted by the protector Cromwell, in favour of the university of Aberdeen, and two colleges thereof. They chose a common rector by turns, not judging it necessary or expedient to elect any superior magistrate, and submitted to commissions of visitation under the great seal, addressed to the principals, professors, and masters of the university of Aberdeen. But Charles II. having restored episcopacy in Scotland in 1661, the alienated rents of the bishoprics were resumed, and at the same time the bishop of Aberdeen, now reinstated in his office, and chancellor, *ex dignitate*, of the old college, laying claim

to the same jurisdiction over the other, the principal and masters maintained the privilege reserved to them by the charter of union, and refused to submit to any chancellor not elected by themselves. From this period, therefore, the act of parliament, confirming the union of the two universities, being understood to be rescinded, along with the other acts of king Charles I. from the year 1637, the members of this university have elected and been governed by their own proper magistrate, and have had little public connexion or intercourse with that of Old Aberdeen.

Other Schemes of Union.—Several attempts, however, have since been made to unite the two seminaries, not only into *one university*, but into *one college*, particularly in 1747; but, from the opposition of some individuals of the one or the other, hitherto without success. Upon the 8th of November, 1754, after various meetings and consultations held for that purpose, all the members of both universities unanimously agreed to, and subscribed certain articles of union, and applied to the duke of Argyle, then at the head of affairs in Scotland, for his support and influence in rendering it effectual and permanent. By this agreement the number of professorships in the united college was limited to the number then existing in King's College, with the single addition of a professor of mathematics; and of those offices, such as Greek, philosophy, medicine, &c. in which each college had a professor, the half was to be suppressed; one of these professors either resigning in favour of his colleague, or teaching

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the class alternately, until the death or resignation of one of them. The respective patrons of these double offices were to present by turns, and all the professors were to receive a considerable addition to their salaries out of those to be suppressed. The only remaining difficulty to be adjusted was, whether the *locus*, or seat of the united college should be in New or Old Aberdeen? the Marischal College, with the magistrates of Aberdeen, and other patrons, insisting on its being placed in that city; while the members of King's College strongly maintained a contrary opinion. This point being therefore at last referred to the decision of the earl of Finlater, he determined it in favour of New Aberdeen; but in consequence of fresh remonstrances and opposition on the part of King's College, the whole previous agreement fell to the ground, and the two colleges remained separate as before.

After the failure of this attempt, no other endeavour appears to have been used to effect an union until the year 1786, when the principal and professors of Marischal College, in conjunction with some of those of King's College, again projected a plan for uniting them into one, a measure which they judged would have been very much for the advantage of both, and of the greatest service to the education of youth over all the northern part of the kingdom. They also proposed to suppress a moiety of all those offices in which each college had a professor; but in place of sharing the salaries among the offices retained, they proposed employing them for the establishment of new profes-

sorships, such as were wanting in both; and by admitting of no sinecure places, to render the united college a complete school of education in law and medicine, as well as in all the other sciences. This scheme having been first suggested by the earl of Bute, at that time chancellor of Marischal College, was warmly patronized by many persons of rank, and communities, who were applied to on the occasion; but after a great deal of argument and discussion on both sides, was at length frustrated by the opposition it met with from a majority of the members of King's College.

Plan of Education.—How long the system of education appointed by the foundation charter continued to be observed, is unknown; alterations in it were no doubt enjoined by various commissions of visitation issued by parliament; and Aristotle at length resigned his empire to Bacon and Newton. But although the professorship of Greek was fixed in 1700, it was not until about forty years ago, that the old practice of one professor carrying forward the same class for three years, and teaching the whole circle of the sciences, was relinquished. This appears the more extraordinary, when we find that so early as the reign of king James VI. new foundation charters, said to be composed by Buchanan, were given by that prince to more than one of our universities, in which is the following clause: "Quatuor autem hos regentes nolum-
" us, prout in regni nostri academiis olim mos fuit,
" novas professiones quotannis immutare, quo factum
" fuit, ut dum multa profiterentur, in paucis periti in-
" venirentur;

" venirentur ; verum volumus in eadem professione se
" exerceant, ut adolescentes qui gradatim ascendunt,
" dignum suis studiis et ingeniis præceptorem reperire
" queant."

In the year 1755, a new order of teaching was adopted in this university, by the unanimous approbation of all the members; an account of which was then printed for the information of the public. Of this arrangement and system of education, which has been successfully prosecuted ever since that period, with very little variation, the following is an abstract:

The order formerly observed in this college was that followed by most of the ancient philosophers, which was afterwards espoused by the scholastics, and generally adopted by all the universities in Europe. They began with logic, then proceeded to ontology, pneumatology, morals, politics, and, last of all, taught natural philosophy. The peripatetic philosophy, at least as far as it was espoused by the commentators and followers of Aristotle, was in a great measure made up of verbal subtleties, and theories, ill grounded, though ingeniously devised. These were supported by arguments moulded into an artificial form, the mechanism of which must first be understood, and it was laid open by the logic then in use. The chief business of that philosophy was to express opinions in hard and unintelligible terms; the student needed a dictionary or nomenclature of the technical words, and authorized distinctions; experiment was quite neglected; science was to be reasoned out from general principles, either taken for granted, or deduced by comparison

parison of general ideas, or founded on very narrow and inadequate observation. Ontology, which explained these terms and distinctions, and laid down these principles, was therefore introduced immediately after *logic*. By these two, the student was sufficiently prepared for the verbal, or at best ideal, inquiries of the other parts. But philosophy has since that time been happily reformed; and is become an image, not of human fancies and conceits, but of the reality of nature, and truth of things. The only basis of philosophy is now acknowledged to be an accurate and extensive history of nature, exhibiting an exact view of the various phenomena for which philosophy is to account, and on which it is to found its reasonings. This being the reformed state of philosophy, great inconveniences must be found in prosecuting the scholastic order of the sciences. The student must make a transition at once from words and languages to philosophy, without being previously introduced to the knowledge of facts, the sole foundation of, and preparation for it; he must be hurried at the first into the most abstruse, difficult, and subtle parts of it; he must be put upon examining the nature, foundation, and different kinds of evidence and reasoning, before he is acquainted with any specimens of these kinds, by which they may be illustrated; and in proportion as philosophy is more improved and more thoroughly reformed, such inconveniences must become more sensible. For these reasons, the professors of the Marischal College were induced to alter the hitherto received order of teaching philosophy; and after the most mature deliberation,

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they resolved that their students should, after being instructed in languages and classical learning, be made acquainted with the elements of history, natural and civil, of geography and chronology, accompanied with the elements of mathematics; that they should then proceed to natural philosophy, and, last of all, to morals, politics, logic, and metaphysics. And if by adopting this order they avoid the inconveniences above mentioned, and make the sciences follow one another, according to the natural connection of their subjects, and the gradual openings of the human mind, may they not expect the approbation of the public, and better fruits of their labours in forming the minds of youth, so that they may be possessed of knowledge more real in itself, and more useful for the various purposes of human life? The order of the sciences here established, was pretty much observed by some of the ancient stoics, particularly Panætius aud Possidonius; and Epictetus also insinuates that he considers it as the proper method. In general, it agrees with the partitions of science laid down by lord Verulam, and perfectly suits the genius of his philosophy. It appears to be that in which the sciences will afford most light to one another, and in which they will have the most happy influence on life.

1. The first year, therefore, is employed in classical learning under the professor of Greek, whose business it is not only to teach that elegant language in which the sciences were first delivered, and which by retaining their original terms, and from being used by those great masters whose works are still the acknowledged standards

standards in them, must always be regarded as the foundation of learning; but to open the minds of youth, by explaining antiquity; by acquainting them with the lives and characters of the chief classic authors; and by pointing out the uses and advantages of literature for the various purposes of human life. As it is well known that the Greek language is little taught at our grammar schools in this country, and that an accurate knowledge of the elementary part is of the greatest importance, the first part of the session is necessarily employed in teaching the grammar. The students then begin to read some of the easier parts of the Testament, Lucian's Dialogues, Æsop's Fables, and, towards the end, are introduced to Homer, and some of the other poets. Along with their reading, they are sometimes exercised in making translations of easy passages from the Greek, into Latin and English, in which the idioms of the several languages are compared and pointed out, and the scholar thereby acquires a more familiar acquaintance with the structure and peculiarities of each.

2. The subjects to which the attention of the students is principally directed in the next class, are history, civil and natural, along with Latin literature. The study of natural and civil history is judged to be a just intermediate step between the study of languages, and general reasonings concerning things. History conveys to a young mind instructions adapted to its faculties, which at the same time open and prepare it gradually for apprehending the conclusions of philosophy, that branch of science which can only be improved, in

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proportion as history is perfected. Our knowledge in the one and the other must keep pace, for history relates the phenomena, and philosophy explains and accounts for them. The study of history, therefore, particularly natural history, must be proper to precede that of philosophy, not only as it opens the mind, but also as it furnishes it with the requisite materials. As there are not separate appointments for these branches of education, the same professor lectures on history, and illustrates the classics at different hours. Impressed with a sense of the great importance of classical learning, he employs six meetings a week in illustrating the Latin classics. The students also continue to read Greek in the second class occasionally during the session. 1. In the classical department, the professor begins with a brief course of lectures and illustrations on ancient and modern versification, and points out those circumstances which distinguish the ancient verse from the modern. Of these discourses the students receive a printed Latin abridgment. While reading the Latin poets, the students are not only exercised in scanning, but also accustomed to read according to the quantity; a practice which is attended with the best consequences, and, if begun early, would wonderfully facilitate the composition of Latin verse. The Latin authors also read in the second class are Virgil, Homer, Juvenal, Cicero, and occasionally Tacitus. 2. As an introduction to civil history, a view is given of chronology and geography. Particular attention is paid to the revolutions of Greece and Rome, the Greek and Roman antiquities, and the progress of literature,

philosophy,

philosophy, and the fine arts among the ancients. 3. Natural history comes next in order. This subject is comprehended under six heads: viz. meteorology, hydrology, geology, mineralogy, vegetation, zoology: the last whereof is introduced by a brief view of comparative anatomy and physiology: the students receive a syllabus of the whole. At the same time, the students in this class attend the professor of mathematics, for the elementary parts, as the knowledge of the mathematical sciences is an absolutely necessary key to the philosophy of bodies.

3. As material objects are the most familiar to young minds, and experiments and reasonings concerning them are most level to their capacities, the students in the third year of their course, enter on the study of natural and experimental philosophy, and are instructed in its several branches; viz. mechanics, hydrostatics, pneumatics, optics, astronomy, magnetism, electricity, and any others which new discoveries have added to the parts already cultivated. At the same time they continue their application to mathematics, so as they may go hand in hand with their studies in the different objects of natural philosophy.

4. In the last year of the philosophy course are taught, 1. Pneumatology, or the natural philosophy of spirit, including the doctrine of the nature, faculties, and states of the human mind; also natural theology. 2. Moral philosophy, containing ethics, jurisprudence, and politics; the study of these being accompanied with the perusal of some of the best of the ancient moralists. 3. Logic, or the laws and rules of inventing,

proving,

proving, retaining, and communicating knowledge. And lastly, Metaphysics and Rhetoric. Dr. Beattie's Elements of Moral Science has been used as the text-book in this class for several years.

The professor of mathematics, during the first year the students are under his care, explains to them the principles of arithmetic, teaches the first six books of Euclid's elements of geometry, first principles of algebra, plane trigonometry, practical geometry in all its branches, principles of geography, and use of the globes. The second year, algebra, with its application to various kinds of calculation, elements of solid geometry, principles of perspective, navigation, spherical geometry, dialling, conic sections. The third year he teaches the higher parts of algebra, genesis and properties of higher curves, methods of indivisibles, prime and ultimate ratios, &c. method of fluxions, direct and inverse, higher parts of astronomy, with the detail of astronomical calculation. The instruments connected with the different branches, of which the university has a considerable number of the best construction, are exhibited, and their adjustments and uses explained. In every part of the course, the application of the principles to the practical arts of life is pointed out, and illustrated by examples.

Other Particulars of College Economy, &c—The three professors of philosophy and the professor of Greek attend their students three hours a day, and the professor of mathematics, at least one hour for each class, during the whole session of college, which commences

on the 1st day of November, and ends in April. The fees paid to the professors, and which have not been raised for many years, are for the lowest bursars twenty merks, and for the higher, in proportion to the amount of their bursaries. The others, called free students, pay an honorarium of at least one guinea and a half, but more frequently two or three guineas. None of the students reside in the college, but are boarded and lodged in houses kept for that purpose, or with their friends. The number of students in philosophy varies from 120 to 140, of whom ten or fifteen are generally from England or the West Indies. Their conduct is as carefully attended to as possible; and every Friday, in the public school, the delinquents, whose names are marked in the catalogue, for the transgressions of the week preceding, are called out by the principal in presence of the professors, and punished by censure or fine, according to the fault. At this meeting also, the students, in the three higher classes, deliver Latin discourses upon subjects prescribed to them by their respective masters for that purpose. They all wear long scarlet gowns, with broad velvet collars, of the same form with those of the clergy of the church of Scotland; attend prayers, which are pronounced by each of the four regents in his turn, to whom this duty belongs, every morning at eight in the public school; and some weeks before the conclusion of the session, undergo a solemn examination in presence of the principal, professors, and all who may chuse to attend.

The expence of living here was formerly extremely low, all the common necessaries of life being very plentiful

plentiful and cheap. They are now considerably raised, yet young men of the best families are still boarded and lodged at the rate of less than thirty pounds a year; and the other expences for clothes, books, and education, need not exceed twenty pounds more. The poorer sort do not expend one half of that sum. If the student remains only during our short session of five months, his whole expence on the highest calculation may be amply defrayed for thirty pounds, and the lower ranks in proportion. Some private families, indeed, admit boarders at a much higher rate. The present principal boards and lodges in his house, and superintends the education of a few young gentlemen, for which he receives one hundred pounds per annum. A considerable number of students remain in town during the vacation, when they are attended by private tutors, and study drawing, music, modern languages, and other useful or fashionable accomplishments, for which there are many very well qualified teachers.

Divinity, and Oriental Languages.—There are generally from sixty to eighty students in divinity, who attend the lectures of the professors of King's and Marischal Colleges. Of this number, however, seldom more than one-third gives regular attendance. The remainder, consisting chiefly of students engaged in teaching parochial schools in the country, or as tutors in gentlemens' families, hear only a few lectures, and deliver a certain number of exercises in each of the divinity halls. Of these, as before mentioned,

eight or ten enjoy bursaries of ten pounds, and upwards, to twenty-five pounds each. The students have a small library in this college, purchased chiefly by annual contributions among themselves, and tolerably well furnished with books suited to their studies. Each of the professors in divinity gives two lectures every week on different days, so that the students may enjoy the instructions of both. These they endeavour to arrange in such a manner, that they may form together a regular course of theology. The general subjects discussed in order are, the grand principles of natural religion; the Christian evidences; scripture criticism; systematic and controversial divinity; the history of the principal controversies which have agitated the Christian church; and the pastoral care. The whole course is intended to be finished in four or five sessions.

As by the appointment of the church of Scotland, every student of divinity must deliver, during the course of his theological studies, a certain number of exercises prescribed by the professors, whose instructions he attends; these exercises are exhibited every week during the theological session in the halls of King's and Marischal Colleges; in the former, after the professor has finished his lecture; and in the latter, every Saturday in the forenoon. When the exercise is delivered, the professor first asks the opinions of the students present, and then proceeds to criticise the performance, and to point out the faults he has discovered in sentiment, expression, composition, and delivery. The exercises required of every student are,

1st, A lecture, or popular explanation of some passage of scripture. 2d, A homily, or sermon. 3d, An exercise and addition, that is, a critical analysis of some portion of the Greek Testament, together with an illustration of the doctrine it may contain. 4th, An exegesis, or Latin discourse on some theological question. The divinity session commences, in King's and Marischal Colleges, about the end of December, and concludes in the beginning of April. The detriment arising to the education of candidates for the sacred ministry, from the irregular attendance of so many students, has long been felt by the professors of both colleges. In order to remedy this defect, as far as lay in their power, the synod of Aberdeen, at the instance of both professors of divinity, lately addressed to all the students within their bounds, an admonition on this subject, and appointed it to be read by the professors in the halls. This has been already attended with beneficial consequences. At the same time, the synod drew up an overture on the same subject, which they transmitted to the General Assembly of the church, under the full conviction that some effectual remedy to the abuse to which it related, was desirable and necessary. This overture has accordingly been transmitted by the assembly to presbyteries for their opinion.

The rules of the church also require, that students in divinity should apply to the study of the Hebrew language; but this class having formerly been taught in a very superficial manner, was for many years little attended to. The present professor, how-

ever, being desirous of restoring a branch of education so useful, and even necessary, for the clergy, the two professors of divinity lately gave in to the synod of Aberdeen a representation on the subject. The synod accordingly, earnestly recommended to all the students of divinity under their inspection, a more diligent application to that study, and particularly enjoined those holding bursaries, to give a strict and regular attendance on the Hebrew classes, during the whole period of their enjoying them. This recommendation, it is hoped, will be attended with the desired effect. The class for Hebrew in this university, now meets twice a day for five days in the week, during the whole period of the session of divinity. Besides teaching the elements of the language, and reading the Old Testament with his pupils, the professor delivers discourses on textual criticism, Jewish antiquities, and other subjects connected with the study of the Hebrew scriptures. He also teaches the Arabic and Persic languages, in which several of his scholars have already made considerable proficiency.

Medicine.—The office of professor of medicine was formerly considered almost as a sinecure, no lectures being read, or any duty being performed, unless giving attendance on such of the students as were sick, or occasionally dissecting such subjects as could be procured. The present professor, however, who has been but lately admitted, proposes, as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made, to deliver regular courses of lectures on anatomy, and other branches of

of medicine. He is one of the physicians and surgeons to the infirmary, where there is a great deal of practice to be observed both in surgery and medicine, and, as well as the professor of chemistry, and several other physicians, receives a few pupils, who are instructed in the various departments of these arts. The number of students in medicine amounts to about thirty, who besides receiving the instructions, and seeing the private practice of the masters, attend daily the infirmary, and frequently enjoy the benefit of public dissections. They have also formed among themselves a society, under the direction of their masters and some of the professors, from which they derive considerable advantage in the prosecution of their studies. Here the members are obliged in rotation, at a weekly meeting, to deliver discourses upon medical subjects, which at a subsequent meeting are submitted to general discussion, every member being required to deliver his opinion concerning them. They have likewise collected a very considerable number of books on medicine, and subjects connected with it, which are the property of the society. Along with these advantages, they farther enjoy that of attending the professor of chemistry, who gives a regular course of lectures on that subject, every year, during the session of college. The course, however, is by no means confined to medicine, particular attention being also paid to the application of chemistry for the purposes of agriculture, manufactures, and the arts. The same professor likewise gives a course of lectures on chemical pharmacy, after the conclusion of the other. The medical student too, has

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an opportunity of attending a course of botany, taught every summer under the patronage of the college, by a gentleman who enjoys a small salary from the magistracy for that purpose.

With such previous education, these students generally resort to the university of Edinburgh, where they remain one or more years, according to their fortunes or other circumstances. From thence they frequently remove, without taking any degree, either into the army or navy, or to the British settlements abroad; and after some years practice apply to the college where they have been educated, for the degree of M. D. This they frequently obtain upon proper testimonials, their merit and former characters being perfectly known to the professors. Degrees in medicine are also sometimes conferred upon strangers; but, in these cases, the formal attestation of two well known and respectable graduates in medicine, are indispensibly requisite; and the fee, when any is received, is never less than sixteen pounds, which is divided between the public library and the professor of medicine. Many of these graduates have reflected the highest credit on their country, and some of them now enjoy the first honours and emoluments of the medical profession; and if, in a few instances, it may have been otherwise, the same is believed to have as frequently happened in most other universities, whether at home or abroad. Degrees in law and divinity are also conferred; for the first a fee is sometimes received for behoof of the library; but for the last, never.

Patronage of Offices and Salaries.—The patronage of the offices of principal, of the four regents, and the professor of medicine, was vested in the family of Marischal, and fell to the crown after the rebellion in 1715, by the forfeiture of that family. At the same time, almost all the professors were ejected for their attachment to the unfortunate house of Stewart, having had the imprudence, along with many members of King's College, to avow their partiality for the Pretender, by a public address delivered to him at Fetteresso, even after the rebellion was understood to be suppressed, by the defeat of his party at Sheriff-muir.—The patronage of the professorship of oriental languages belongs to the family of Ramsay of Balmain; and those of divinity and mathematics to the magistrates and town council of Aberdeen; but the last has sometimes been bestowed, agreeably to the appointment of the founder, by solemn comparative trial among candidates convened by a public program; the professors of mathematics in all the other Scots universities being invited as judges. The office of professor of chemistry is under the patronage of the university.

The chief part of the salaries of the principal and regents arises from the rents of lands and feu duties in the vicinity of Aberdeen, formerly belonging to the Dominican and Carmelite friars. These were originally of so small value, that by the foundation-charter, the salary of the principal was fixed at three chalders of bear, and one hundred merks in money; and those of the regents at twenty-four bolls of bear, and forty pounds Scots each. It has happened, however, from

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the rise in the value of lands, and especially from feuing out for building some crofts of land, in and adjoining to the town, that these small salaries have been gradually augmenting, and now amount to about *fifty* pounds sterling for each of the masters. To this is to be added a sum of about fifty pounds more, arising from Sir Thomas Crombie's mortification, which is equally divided among the principal and four regents.

In 1699, king William made a grant, which has been since continued, of three hundred pounds sterling per annum, payable out of the bishop's rents of Aberdeen and Moray; two-thirds whereof were assigned to the college of Old Aberdeen, to enable them to repair their ruinous buildings, and one-third to the Marischal College. Of this money, certain specified sums are appointed for the augmentation of salaries, and for establishing two bursaries in divinity; and the remainder, for the payment of debts, and other public purposes of the university. Those bursars are chosen in the following manner: Upon a vacancy, the principals and professors of both colleges meet together, and make up a list of three candidates, who have passed through their course of *philosophy*, and received the degree of A. M. at either college. This list is transmitted to the barons of exchequer, who nominate one of the three to be King's bursar in theology; and upon producing his presentation, he is admitted to the enjoyment of his bursary, which continues for four years, and is ten pounds per annum. The college also receives annually one hundred and five pounds sterling, under the name of royal bounty, by virtue of a grant from

from queen Ann, which has been since renewed at the commencement of every reign, payable out of the civil establishment of Scotland, and appointed to be applied towards augmenting the salaries of the professors. Yet, notwithstanding this allowance, and that from the bishop's rents, together with the rents of the original college property, and those arising from Sir Thomas Crombie's mortification, none of the salaries exceed eighty pounds per annum, excepting those of the principal and professor of mathematics, which are upwards of one hundred pounds. The precise amount of any of them cannot be exactly stated, being subject to small variations, arising from the high or low prices of grain, and other causes.

College Buildings, &c.—Very little now remains of the old Franciscan monastery, unless the church, of which the walls, with a fine Gothic window, are still entire. Some years since, it was shortened about twenty feet, a new aisle built for the accommodation of the students, and new roofed, at the expence of the town of Aberdeen. It being now their property, a minister is appointed to it by the magistrates and town council, but without any parochial duty. The monastery having become ruinous, the greater part of the present buildings of the college was constructed about 1676, and an additional wing in 1739; but having been ill designed, and erected at different times, they are neither regular, elegant, nor commodious. They contain a common school of 76 feet by 22; a public hall and library room of the same dimensions; a divi-

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nity hall; five other schools, or teaching rooms; an apartment lately fitted up for a museum; another for the apparatus in natural philosophy; and lodgings for three of the professors. There are also, *detached* from the other buildings, a laboratory and teaching room for the use of the professor of chemistry, and dwelling houses for the two college servants.

In the public hall are a good many paintings, but few of any considerable merit. There are portraits of several sovereigns of the family of Stuart; of the founder of the university; of the late earl Marischal, and his brother, general Keith; of the earl of Bute, lately chancellor of the university; of bishop Burnett; —together with one of Dr. Arthur Johnston, and several others, by Jameson.

Library, Museum, &c.—The library originally consisted of no greater collection than what belonged to the Franciscan friars, containing most of the schoolmen and monkish writers, and particularly a good number of the Latin fathers in vellum MSS. together with some few of the classics, Horace, Lucan, Martial, &c. also in MSS. It afterwards received a considerable addition from Dr. Duncan Liddell, of the ancient physicians and mathematicians, Greek, Latin, and Arab, and of the most eminent moderns who had written on these subjects in his own times. Its chief benefactor, however, was Mr. Thomas Reid, secretary for the Latin language to king James the Sixth. In his travels through the greater part of Europe, he purchased the best editions of all the classics, that were printed from

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the time of Aldus Manutius, until the year 1615, including the philosophers, lawyers, Greek and Latin fathers, with the works of the chief critics, the Scaligers, Casaubon, Lambinus, &c. who flourished during that period; also several curious MSS. and particularly an Hebrew Bible, of most beautiful writing, supposed by Kennicott to be the work of the 12th century. This entire collection he left to the Marischal College, together with a salary for a librarian of 600 merks per annum, under the management of the magistrates of Aberdeen, but which was afterwards reduced to £14 13s. 4d. sterling. It has since received considerable additions by the libraries of several private persons, particularly the Rev. Mr. Dunlop, Dr. Alexander Reid, Mr. Lorimer, and the Rev. Mr. Primatt, with other donations of curious and valuable books of drawings, antiquities, &c. from various noblemen and gentlemen connected with the university. Among others, are the ancient popish service book of the cathedral church of Salisbury, finely illuminated, left by bishop Burnett, with several other MSS., breviaries, missals, &c. full of miniature paintings, and other ornaments. In 1782, the earl of Bute, then chancellor, made a present to it of about 1400 volumes, chiefly on medicine, and subjects connected with it; and since that period, has also been received, the medical library of the late Sir William Fordyce of London, a native of Aberdeen, and alumnus of this college. The late Dr. Donaldson, professor of oriental languages, also bequeathed to it his collection of books in that department of literature.

In the charter chest are preserved some of the papal bulls and foundation charters belonging to the Franciscan

ciscan, Dominican, and Carmelite monasteries, together with the ancient writings and title-deeds of the lands and feu-duties bestowed very liberally on some of these societies, from the beginning of the thirteenth century, down to the reformation. Some of these are curious, and serve to throw considerable light on the ancient state of this city and its neighbourhood. Here also is preserved an authentic instrument drawn up and subscribed by seven public notaries, containing an accurate description of the Regalia of Scotland, upon occasion of their being lodged in the castle of Edinburgh, at the union of the kingdoms, which was deposited at that time among the college archives, by the earl Marischal.

The museum contains a small, but increasing collection of specimens in the various departments of natural history, especially in mineralogy; also a good many serpents and other animal productions, preserved in spirits; together with a considerable number and variety of natural and artificial curiosities. Among other articles are an Egyptian mummy, in very bad preservation; a beautiful antique statue of Esculapius; the staff of office belonging to the earls Marischal of Scotland; and a set of casts of ancient gems selected from Tassie's vast collection. Here is also an elegant gold box, presented by the earl of Buchan to the university in 1769, inclosing a silver pen, for which a competition is annually held among the students of the Greek class, and the successful candidate rewarded by a present of a book, and a silver medal with his name inscribed on it, appended to the pen. There are likewise kept here, the dies and some copies of a gold medal, with a

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suitable device appointed by the will of the late John Gray, Esq. of London, to be bestowed on such of his mathematical bursars as should discover an uncommon genius for these sciences, upon certification by the professor, that they have produced some invention or improvement therein, deserving of this mark of distinction. The premium has hitherto been only once conferred, viz. in 1795, in favour of Mr. James Skene, now in a medical department in the East Indies. The medal is of the weight of two ounces of gold. To these may be added the common seal of the university, bearing the arms of the family of Marischal, and of the city of Aberdeen, united: the crest, rather expressive of the vanity of the inventors, is a meridian sun, with the motto, "Luceo."

The apparatus for teaching natural philosophy, in mechanics, hydrostatics, pneumatics, optics, electricity, &c. is esteemed very complete, and perhaps equal to any in the united kingdom. Among other articles, it contains a large collection of models of the most useful machines in various arts and manufactures, of the best workmanship, and with the latest improvements. For this collection the college is indebted to a liberal grant, continued for several years, from the board of trustees for promoting fisheries and manufactures in Scotland. All the models, together with the greater part of the apparatus, have been executed by an artist of this city, under the direction of the present professor. By means of this extensive apparatus, he is enabled, besides his regular course of scientific lectures, to give occasionally a popular course of experimental philosophy, the chief object of which is, the

practical application of this science to the arts, and the common purposes of life.

Observatory.—A small but commodious observatory was erected on the Castle-hill of Aberdeen in the year 1781, upon a spot of ground granted by the magistrates for that purpose, and finished and furnished with instruments by the benevolent assistance received from the earl of Bute, then chancellor of the university, but chiefly by contributions from the gentlemen of the town and neighbouring country. It consisted of two circular rooms, of about 12 feet diameter, having moveable roofs and apertures for the observations; to which was afterwards added a third apartment for the equatorial instrument and other apparatus. It was provided with the following instruments:

A transit telescope, of four feet focus, and three inches aperture; by Ramsden.

A moveable quadrant, of two feet radius, made by Macculloch, and divided with great accuracy, by Troughton.

A very superb equatorial instrument, with circles of eighteen inches diameter, originally made by Sisson; but afterwards divided anew, and an achromatic telescope, with refraction apparatus, added by Ramsden.

A double achromatic telescope, of four feet focus, and two and three fourth inches aperture, moving on a polar axis, and having a divided object glass micrometer; by Dollond.

A Newtonian reflecting telescope, of five feet focus, by Hearne: and a twelve inch Gregorian telescope, by Short.

A time keeper, with a Gridiron pendulum, by Mariott.

An assistant clock, for counting the minutes and seconds, by the stroke of a hammer upon bells; made by Gartly, Aberdeen: also, an alarm clock, barometer, thermometer, &c. The equatorial and transit instruments were presented by the earl of Bute. An astronomical clock, exhibiting various motions of the celestial bodies Also, an orrery.

In the observatory, the construction and adjustments of the different instruments, the method of making observations, with the calculations and results deduced from them, were explained to the students. Here also a regular series of observations was kept for several years, of some of which, relating to the longitude and latitude of the observatory, the result is published by Dr. Mackay, by whom many of them were taken, in the 4th volume of the Edinburgh Philosophical Transactions.

The want of accommodation for an observer, and the distance of the observatory from the college, which was considerable, rendering a constant course of observations almost impracticable, only such as were of importance continued afterwards to be taken, until about two years since, when the situation being judged necessary to be included in the space of ground allotted for the building of barracks, and the very spot wanted for a powder magazine, it was of course demolished. From a proper representation, however, of these circumstances, by the earl of Mansfield, late chancellor of the university, a sum of money has been obtained from government, as an indemnification for the loss

sustained, and to enable the college to build an observatory in another place. With this money, a large apartment is now constructing over a part of the college buildings, which, from its commanding a more complete view of the horizon—from its contiguity, and other conveniences, is expected to answer the purposes of an observatory even better than the former. Its height above the level of the court is about sixty feet; but such is the position, extent, and solidity of the intersecting walls, that, excepting perhaps in the case of violent storms, when observations can seldom be taken in any situation, it is expected, that with proper precautions, the instruments will be as little liable to tremor as before. Here will be a room of about forty feet by eighteen, with three small cupolas, two of these being moveable for the quadrant and equatorial, and the third fixed for the transit instrument. Adjoining to this room is a small balcony, for taking observations of eclipses, &c. in the open air, with the telescope, and within hearing of the assistant clock. In this room will also be contained a collection of books on the mathematical sciences, purchased with a small fund appropriated to that peculiar purpose by Dr. Liddel, who endowed the mathematical professorship.

Eminent Persons.—Among the persons distinguished by superior rank or literary reputation, who have received their education at this university, or have held offices in it, may be mentioned the following names:

Mr. Thomas Reid, Latin secretary to king James the Sixth, who was before taken notice of, as having bequeathed

bequeathed to it his whole collection of books, and founded the office of librarian.

Sir Robert Gordon of Straloch, an eminent scholar, who published the first accurate set of maps of this part of the kingdom, towards the middle of the last century.

Gilbertus Jacchæus, or Jack, M. D. who writes on physics and metaphysics, and died professor of philosophy in the university of Leyden, in 1628.

Dr. Patrick Dun, the pupil and friend of Dr. Liddel, who writes on medicine, in which he received a degree at Basil in 1607. He bequeathed very ample funds for the support of the grammar school of Aberdeen, and expended a considerable sum in repairing the college buildings, of which he was principal, and died in 1652.

Dr. William Johnston, of the family of Caskieben, who, after having taught philosophy in the university of Sedan, was the first person who occupied the mathemathical chair in this university. Also his younger brother,

Dr. Arthur Johnston, author of the well known translation of the Psalms, and other elegant Latin poems. Having received the degree of M. D. at Padua in 1610, he afterwards settled in France, where he remained until about 1633, and then returning to his own country, was appointed physician to king Charles the First. He died at Oxford in 1641.

Dr. Gilbert Burnett, bishop of Salisbury, the well known author of many works, whose valuable donations to the college were formerly mentioned.

Dr. James Gregory, professor of mathematics in the

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university of St. Andrews, and afterwards in that of Edinburgh, and inventor of the reflecting telescope, named from him the Gregorian.

Dr. Robert *Morison*, an eminent writer on botany, of *which he* was appointed regius professor in the university of Oxford.

Mr. James Gibbs, the architect, who gave the designs for many churches in London, and other public buildings, particularly for the Radcliffe library at Oxford, which is much admired.

Dr. John Arbuthnott, physician to queen Ann, the intimate friend of Pope and Swift, and *author of* several works.

Dr. James Mackenzie, physician in London, author of the History of Health, &c.

Mr. Colin Maclaurin, who held the office of professor of mathematics in this university, and afterwards removed to Edinburgh in 1727.

The late George earl Marischal of Scotland, whose estates were forfeited in 1715, and who died at Berlin in 1778, and his brother,

General Keith, field marischal in the service of Prussia, who was killed at the battle of Hochkirchen, in 1758.

To these ought to be added,

Dr. Thomas Blackwell, author of the Life of Homer, Court of Augustus, &c. Also,

Dr. George Campbell, lately deceased, whose writings are well known; both principals of the university.

Dr. James Beattie, late professor of moral philosophy, whose writings are also well known.

Mr.

Mr. James Hay Beattie, son of the former, professor of history and Latin literature in this university.

Another eminent literary character, Dr. Thomas Reid, late emeritus professor of philosophy in the university of Glasgow, also received his education here, where, being descended from Secretary Reid, formerly mentioned, he enjoyed the office of librarian for several years.

Dr. Alexander Gerard, author of Essays on Taste, Genius, &c. who successively held the offices of professor of moral philosophy and divinity in this university. Also,

Mr. James Beattie, late professor of natural history, &c.

Present Members of the University.—The right honourable William Lord Auckland, chancellor.

The Right Hon. Sir William Grant, Bart. lord rector.

Alexander Forbes Irvine, Esq. of Schivas, advocate, dean of faculty.

James Hadden, Esq. the Rev. John Rose, minister of Udny, Dr. William Ruddiman of London, and Dr. Calder of Paddington, assessors to the lord rector.

The Rev. Dr. William Laurence Brown, principal, and professor of divinity.

Mr. George Glennie, professor of moral philosophy.

Mr. Patrick Copland, professor of mathematics.

Dr. Robert Hamilton, professor of natural philosophy.

Mr. John Stuart, professor of Greek.

Dr. James Davidson, professor of natural and civil history.

Dr. William Livingston, professor of medicine.

Dr.

Dr. George French, professor of chemistry. And, Mr. James Kidd, professor of oriental languages.

Improvements suggested.—Of the improvements *still* wanting to render the course of education more complete in this university, the public will in some measure be enabled to judge from the foregoing account of it; the following, however, are briefly suggested for their consideration.

The establishment of some new professorships is obviously necessary for this purpose, particularly one for humanity or the Latin language, unless such an arrangement could be adopted, as would enable the present professors of language to extend their instructions to the other classes, as well as those immediately under their care. This appears the more necessary, as it is suspected that the knowledge of Latin is rather on the decline over all this part of the united kingdom; which may be imputed in part to children being sent to school, and thence to the university at too early an age; but chiefly to the present situation of the parochial schools. Here the emoluments are so very inadequate to the decent support of a public teacher, that they are chiefly occupied by boys at college, or others still worse qualified; and in such circumstances, no one will chuse to remain longer than he can find another employment more advantageous.

In the medical department there are already two professors; but to establish any tolerable school of physic, several others would be necessary. A professor of astronomy would also make an useful addition to the present number, as the various subjects taught by

by the professors of mathematics and natural philosophy leave them but very little leisure for teaching this agreeable and useful science. A ready furnished observatory also affords great encouragement for such an establishment, where the same person might be fully employed in making and recording a regular series of observations. It would likewise be of very great service to the course of education, that a separate professorship was established for the study of rhetoric and the belles lettres; and in the theological department, another for ecclesiastical history.

An addition to the buildings of the college would also be very useful, the present consisting of too few apartments, and being otherwise incommodious. For this purpose the funds of the college are totally inadequate, being scarcely sufficient to answer the expence of necessary repairs. The annual sum permitted to be appropriated to the use of the library is very small, and now that the price of books is so much increased, will by no means admit of the purchase of many valuable modern works. Nor has the Marischal College even the full benefit arising from the books entered in Stationers' hall, as only one copy being sent to Aberdeen, the right of keeping them has been adjudged to the senior university, though they are declared to be the joint property of both. For the chemical class likewise, there being no public fund for supplying utensils and instruments, an apparatus is wanted, more complete and on a larger scale than the one presently in use, furnished at the private expence of the professor.

Another improvement, which has been frequently proposed,

proposed, but from prejudice, the result of ancient custom, never carried into effect, is the prolongation of the session of college. At present, it continues only for five months, which, besides being attended with other inconveniences, obliges the professors to meet with the students no fewer than three times a day, and to conduct and conclude their courses more rapidly than would be necessary in a longer session. This, with almost any other deviation from former practice, can only be made by the mutual consent of both universities, which from various circumstances, is not always to be expected. In this case too, such an alteration might be unfavourably received even by the public, who have been long accustomed to the present period; especially from its occasioning less expence to the parents, and being better suited to the low state of many of the bursaries.

The best and most natural remedy for these, or other imperfections in the present state of both universities, would perhaps be found, in bringing about that union of them, which has been so frequently attempted. By such means, every deficiency in the number of professorships might be amply supplied, and a complete seminary of education in every useful science, at once established, for the benefit of all the northern parts of Scotland. The united number of students would by no means exceed those in various other colleges, while the very low rate of board and lodging would enable many young men to prosecute the study of law or medicine, who cannot afford the expence to be incurred, by attending some of our other universities.

No.

No. III.

CHARTER OF CONFIRMATION

GRANTED BY

KING CHARLES THE FIRST,

TO

THE BURGH OF ABERDEEN,

9TH SEPTEMBER, 1638.

CHARLES, by the grace of God, king of Great Britain, France and Ireland, defender of the faith; to all good men of the whole earth, whether clergy or laicks, greeting: KNOW YE, That we (being many years past our full and advanced age, and having thereafter, and beyond the same, made both our special and general revocation in parliament), considering that our illustrious ancestors, of immortal memory, erected the burgh of ABERDEEN (one of the most ancient and illustrious burghs in all our kingdom of Scotland), into a free and royal burgh, AND GAVE AND GRANTED to the provost, baillies, counsellours, burgesses and community thereof, and to their successors, THE SAME BURGH, with severall lands, heritages, tenements, houses, buildings, milnes, fishings, privileges, liberties and immunities, pertaining and belonging thereto, by valid infeftments, rights, and securities, made and granted thereupon to them and their predecessors, as the same at more length

purport:

purport: ACCORDING WHEREUNTO, the said provost, baillies, counsellors, burgesses, and community of our said burgh, and their predecessors, HOLD, and have HOLDEN, *the* foresaid burgh, lands, milnes, fishings, *and others* belonging thereto, liberties and *privileges* of the same in all time bygone: From whence, and from the erection of the said burgh into a free and royal burgh, and endowing the same with the liberties and privileges aforesaid; by the virtue, industry, and diligence of the worthy inhabitants thereof, endowed with virtue, the said burgh is become a populous city, famous for humanity and renown, and much extolled above *all other burghs* and cities whatsoever in the northern part of our said kingdom; and which affords and supplies abundantly towards the furnishing of lodging and entertainment for all our subjects at their yearly and termly meetings, and other councils and conventions, as well publick as private, which are holden there: and which is well able to defend (as in a sanctuary) our oppressed subjects, when they resort thither out of the northern and mountainous places, lying towards the said burgh: So that, by the civility, good government, and diligence of the magistrates of the said burgh, the same hath become most flourishing, to the very great advantage of the inhabitants, and our other subjects thereabout, whose children have plentifull education in letters, arts, and callings of all kind. WE THEREFORE, being rather sollicitous that the said burgh should daily flourish, and that the rents, liberties, and securities made thereto by our predecessors, should be amplified and extended, than that they should be di-

diminished

minished any manner of way: with the special advice and consent of our beloved and most faithful cousin and counsellour, *John*, earl of Traquair, lord Linton and Caberston, our principal threasaurer, comptroller, and collector of our kingdom of Scotland, and threasaurer of our new augmentations; as also, of our faithful counsellour, Sir James Carmichael, of that ilk, knight-baronet, our depute in these offices; and of the rest of the lords and others our commissioners of our exchequer of that our kiugdom—to have ratified, approven, and by this our present charter, confirmed: And by the tenor hereof, we ratifie and approve, and for us and our successors for ever, CONFIRM a CHARTER made, given, and granted, by our umquhile dearest father, *James*, by the grace of God, king of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, of immortal memory, with consent of his principal threasurer, threasurer-depute, and of the rest of the lords of his secret council, his commissioners for the time, under his great seal, dated at *Falkland*, the seventeenth day of July, one thousand six hundred and seventeen; whereby our said dearest father, with advice and consent foresaid, for the causes therein contained, not only ratified, approved, and confirmed, all and sundry charters, infeftments, precepts, and instruments of seasine, confirmations, acts, sentences, decreets, gifts, exemptions, rights, titles, securities, letters, writes, evidents, grants, liberties, advantages, immunities, and privileges therein mentioned, made, granted, or confirmed, by our said dearest father, and his most illustrious predecessors, kings and queens of Scotland, or their gover-

nours, regents, or lords of session for the time, to our said burgh of Aberdeen, the provost, baillies, aldermen, deans of guild, threasurers, counsellours, burgesses and community thereof; and to the churches, *ministers*, and hospitals of the same, and to their successors, of whatsoever form or forms, content or contents, date or dates, respectively, the same be of. AND SPECIALLY, without prejudice of the generality foresaid, the particular charters, infeftments, decreets, donations, exemptions, acts, writes, evidents, and others, specially and particularly mentioned in the said charter, the grants, donations, privileges, liberties, and *immunities respectively therein contained*; with all and sundry other charters, infeftments, grants, gifts, privileges, immunities, rights, acts of parliament, and general conventions; sentences and decreets of privy-council, given and granted by our said umquhile dearest father, and his most illustrious progenitors, or by any other person or persons, to, and in favours of, the provost, aldermen, baillies, counsellours, and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen for the time, and their predecessors and successors whatsoever, concerning the erection of our said burgh into a free royal burgh, with all rights, titles, and privileges thereto belonging, and incumbent by the laws and custom of our said kingdom of Scotland, and with all lands, tenements, forrests, woods, muirs, marishes, commonties, waters, salmon fishings, milnes, astrict multures, castles, meadows, lochs, hills, greens, forts, blockhouses, anchorages, bell-customs, and other customs; weights, tron-weights, measures, and other profits, casualties and

duties

duties whatsoever, which formerly belonged to our said burgh of Aberdeen, and which they or their predecessors, or their authors, possessed or used in any time bygone. BUT ALSO, our said umquhile dearest father, with consent foresaid, of new gave, granted, erected, and disponed, to the saids provost, baillies, counsellours, burgesses and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their successors for ever, all and haill the said burgh of Aberdeen, with the precinct, walls, foussies, ports, ways, streets, passages, and all and sundry houses, biggings, yairds, tenements, crofts, acres, and roods of lands, within the territory of our said burgh. AS ALSO, all and sundry, the common lands belonging and pertaining to our said burgh; with the whole muirs, marishes, meadows, parts, pendicles, and pertinents, of old called the *Forrest of Stocket*, with the wood thereof within the limits, marches, and bounds thereof, as the same were then occupied and possessed by the said provost, baillies, counsellours, and community, and were in use to be yearly rode and perambulate. All and whole the lands of *Rubislaw*; all and whole the lands of *Cruives*, with the tofts, crofts, houses, biggings, parts, pendicles, and pertinents of the same. All and whole the waters of *Dee* and *Don*, and salmon-fishings thereof, within and thorrow the whole bounds, parts, and marches thereof, as the same were then occupied and possessed by the said provost and baillies, counsellours and community, and their tenants and servants, and particularly the salmon fishings upon the saids rivers of Dee and Don, specially and particularly mentioned and expressed in the said charter, within the bounds, marches, and

limits, and possessed in manner specified in the same charter. Together with all and sundry *sheills* and *inches* within and upon the saids waters of Dee and Don, and with privilege and *liberty* of building *sheills*, drawing, *spreading*, and drying nets, upon both sides of the saids waters respectively, as our said burgh, and the provost, baillies, counsellours and community thereof, and their predecessors, possessors, and occupiers of the said fishings, were formerly in use and possession of. AS ALSO, with privilege and liberty of having and holding boats and ferry-boats, one or more, upon the said waters of Dee and Don, and in whatsoever places and parts thereof, for transporting our lieges and subjects, and their goods and beasts, where the said provost, baillies, and counsellours of our said burgh shall appoint and think fit; with all duties, fees, and advantages belonging to, and incumbent upon the saids boats. All and sundry the common milnes of the said burgh, to wit, the two milnes within our said burgh, called the *Upper* and *Nether Milnes*; other two milnes without our said burgh, called the *Justice Milnes*; and two other milnes lying within the freedom of our said burgh—one of them called the *New Milne*, upon Bucksburn; and the other called the *New Milne* upon the Denburn; and the *Windmilne* at the Gallowgate-head of our said burgh; with the multures and sequels of the said milnes, of all grain growing upon all and sundry the crofts, acres, and lands of the community of our said burgh, and within the freedom and territory thereof, and of all grain pertaining and belonging to the burgesses and inhabi-

tants

tants of our said burgh, tholing fire and water within the same. All and whole the *Castle-hill, Green Meadow,* and suburb called *Foottie,* with the chapel thereof; and all the boats and fishings of white fishes belonging thereto; and with the harbour for ships, port, blockhouse, and shore of the said burgh; aqueducts and passages thereof; liberties and privileges of the same, specially mentioned in the said charter: together with all and sundry the bell customs, and other customs and tolls of our said burgh, used and wont; with weights and tron-weights of our said burgh; fees and duties belonging thereto; and with all other weights and measures, liberties, privileges, and immunities belonging to our said burgh. AND SPECIALLY, certain liberties, privileges, and immunities, mentioned in the said charter, concerning our said burgh, and the government thereof, by which charter abovementioned, all and sundry annual rents; feu farms; yearly duties; altarages, lands, fishings, tenements, houses, crofts, and chaplainries, which of old pertained to the chapels of Saint Nicolas's parish church of Aberdeen, were also given, granted, and disponed to the saids provost, baillies, counsellours, and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their successors; with all tenements, crofts, mansions, dail silver, and anniversarys whatsoever, which formerly belonged to any chaplainries and altarages whatever, in any church, chapel, or college, within the liberty of the said burgh of Aberdeen, founded by whatsoever person or patron, wherever the same lye within our said kingdom of Scotland, or were in use to be uplifted and received

and

received in any time bygone. AS ALSO, all and haill the mansion-houses, buildings, yards, and church, which formerly pertained to the Franciscan friars of our said burgh. *And sicklike* the common loch of the same burgh, by all the bounds and parts thereof, and hills called *Woman-hill, Play-field, Saint Catharine's Hill, Heading-hill,* and *Gallow-hill,* with the fields and greens of the said burgh, called the *Links,* as the same ly in length and breadth betwixt the water mouth of the river Dee, and the water mouth of the river Don, with tenants, tenandries, and service of free tenants, of all and sundry the foresaid lands and fishings, with the parts, pendicles, and pertinents thereof; together also with all and sundry other liberties, immunities, rights, and privileges whatsoever, belonging and incumbent to our said burgh; and whereof the said provost, baillies, council and community of the said burgh, or their predecessors have been in possession in any time bygone: AND LIKEWAYS with as ample and great privileges and immunities as were granted to our boroughs of Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, or any other royal boroughs within our kingdom of Scotland, by our said umquhile dearest father, or his ancestors, at any time bygone, preceeding the day and date of the said charter. And united, annexed, and incorporated to and with our said burgh of Aberdeen, liberties and privileges thereof, all and sundry the foresaid lands, acres, crofts, common lands, milnes, multures, fishings, castle, loch, meadow, hills, green, bulwark, anchorages, tolls, bell-customs, weights and measures, tron-weights and measures, annual rents, mansion-houses, yairds and others, generally

and

and particularly above expressed; with the privilege of giving seasine of the same, at the mercat-cross of our said burgh, to the provost, or any one of the baillies thereof: which seasine shall stand, and is ordained to be sufficient to the saids provost, baillies, counsellours, and community of our said burgh, for all and whole our said burgh, and all and sundry lands, houses, biggings, and others specially and generally therein mentioned, in form and manner therein expressed: to be holden by the said provost, baillies, council, and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their successors in fee, heritage, and free burgage for ever, as the said charter of the date foresaid in itself at more length purports; with the precept of seasine and instrument of seasine following thereon, and with the act of dissolution made in parliament, holden at Edinburgh the twenty-eighth day of June, in the year one thousand six hundred and seventeen; to which act the charter abovementioned, relates, and is thereupon founded and granted. AND SICKLIKE with all and sundry other charters, infeftments, precepts, and instruments of seasine, confirmations, acts, sentences, decreets, gifts, exemptions, rights, titles, securities, letters, writs, evidents, grants, liberties, advantages, immunities and privileges therein mentioned, made, granted, or confirmed, by our umquhile most noble predecessors, William, sometime king of Scotland; Alexander the Second, sometime king; Alexander the Third, sometime king; Robert the First, sometime king; David, his son, sometime king; Robert the Second, sometime king; Robert the Third, sometime

time king; James the First, sometime king; James the Second, sometime king; James the Third, sometime king; James the Fourth, sometime king; James the Fifth, sometime king; queen Mary, his daughter; and our said umquhile dearest father, king James the Sixth, of excellent memory; or by any of them, or by any others their predecessors, kings and queens of Scotland, or by their regents, governours, or lords of session for the time:—to our said burgh of Aberdeen, the provost, aldermen, baillies, deans of guild, threasaurers, counsellours, burgesses and inhabitants of our said burgh, and to the churches, ministers, and hospitals of the same burgh, and to their successors, of whatsoever form or forms, content or contents, date or dates, the same may be of, of and upon the erection of our said burgh of Aberdeen into a free royal borough, with all rights, titles and privileges pertaining and incumbent thereto by the laws and practice of our said kingdom of Scotland, and with all houses, lands, tenements, forests, woods, muirs, marishes, commonties, waters, salmon-fishings, milnes, astrict multures, castles, meadows, lochs, hills, greens, bulwarks, anchorages, small customs, bell-customs, and other customs, weights and measures, profits, casualties, and duties whatsoever, which formerly pertained to our said burgh, and which were possessed and used by the said provost, baillies, council and community, or their predecessors or authors in any time bygone. And we WILL and GRANT, and for us and our successors, with advice and consent foresaid, DECERN and ORDAIN, that the said generality shall noways derogate from the speciality, nor the speciality

speciality from the generality: AND THAT this our present confirmation and ratification of the premises is and shall be in all time coming, of as great value, strength, efficacy, and effect, in all respects, to our said burgh of Aberdeen, and to the provost, baillies, counsellours, and community of the same, and to their successors, as if the said charter and precept of sasine, with the act of dissolution above mentioned; and all and sundry other charters, infeftments, dispositions, grants, confirmations, rights, titles and securities, decreets, exemptions, writes, acts, evidents, gifts, liberties, advantages, immunities, privileges, and others particularly and generally therein mentioned—were at length, word by word, insert in this our present charter (notwithstanding, by reason of the multitude, number, length, and prolixity thereof, the same be noways insert in this present charter), whereanent we, for us and our successors, have dispensed, and by the tenor of this present charter, dispense for ever. MOREOVER, (without hurt, prejudice, or derogation to the foresaid former charters, infeftments, rights, decreets, acts, titles, liberties, privileges, and others particularly and generally above expressed, and in farther corroboration thereof, accumulating rights upon rights,) we, for the good, faithfull, and acceptable service done and performed to us and our most noble progenitors by the saids provost, baillies, council and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their predecessors. And that hereafter they may the better continue in the said service, have of new given, granted, erected, disponed, and by this our present charter confirmed:

And

And by the tenor hereof, with advice and consent foresaid, give, grant, erect, dispone, and by this our present charter, confirm, to our beloved and faithful servants, the provost, baillies, *counsellours*, burgesses and community of *our said* burgh of Aberdeen, and to their successors, all and whole our said burgh of Aberdeen, with the precinct, walls, foussies, ports, ways, streets, passages, and all and sundry houses, biggings, yairds, tenements, crofts, acres, and lands, within the territory and liberty of our said burgh. AND LIKEWAYS, all and sundry the foresaid common lands, belonging and pertaining to our said burgh, with all *muirs*, marishes, meadows, parts, *pendicles, and pertinents*, of old called the Forrest of Stocket, with the wood thereof, within the limits, marches, and bounds thereof, as the same are at present possessed and occupied, and are yearly rode, and in use to be perambulate by the said provost, baillies, council, and community. All and whole the foresaid lands of Rubislaw. All and whole the foresaid lands of Cruives, with the tofts, crofts, houses, biggings, parts, pendicles, and pertinents of the same. All and whole the foresaid waters of Dee and Don, with the salmon-fishings *thereof*, within and thorrow the whole bounds, parts, and limits thereof, as the same at present are possessed and occupied by the said provost, baillies, council, and community, and their tenants and servants. AND SPECIALLY, the foresaid salmon-fishings upon the said water of Dee, called the *Raik, Stellis, Midchingle, Pot*, and *Foords*, upon both sides of the said water: And as the said fishings are distinguished, and distinctly known one from

from another; and as the same ly and are bounded from the mouth of the river, bar, and water-mouth of our said burgh of Aberdeen, to the bridge water at the bridge of Dee, of old pertaining and belonging to William Forbes of Barns; as also, the salmon-fishing upon the water of Don, called the *King's Cavil,* of the foresaid water of Don, as well above as below the bridge thereof, with all and sundry the salmon-fishings of the Cruives, as the said fishings and cruives respectively are bounded, and ly from the watermouth of the said river of Don, to the burn called the *Cruiveburn;* with all and sundry other salmon-fishings, and other fishings whatsoever, upon the saids waters of Dee and Don, and thorrow all the bounds and limits thereof, respectively above expressed, pertaining and incumbent to our said burgh; and as they and their predecessors were in use to possess the same. AND with all other fishings, as well of salmon as of white fishes in the salt water, or sea, betwixt the mouths of the said rivers of Dee and Don, and beside the mouths of the saids rivers upon both sides thereof. AS ALSO, with all and sundry inches and sheills within, and upon the said waters of Dee and Don, and with liberty and privilege of building sheills and sheillings, and of drawing, spreading, and drying nets upon both sides of the saids waters, as well upon our highways, as upon other most commodious places and parts near the said waters, as our said burgh, and their predecessors, possessors, and occupiers of the saids fishings formerly possessed and enjoyed the same. AS ALSO, with liberty and privilege of having boats and ferry-boats,

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one or more, upon the saids waters of Dee and Don, at the watermouths of Dee and Don, where they have proper fishings, for transporting our lieges and subjects, and their goods and beasts, as they shall see fit, with all duties, fees, and advantages, belonging and incumbent to the saids ferry-boats. All and sundry the foresaid common milnes of our said burgh of Aberdeen, to wit, the foresaid two milnes within the said burgh, called the Upper and Nether Milnes; other two milnes without our said burgh, called the Justice Milnes; and other two milnes lying within the liberty of our said burgh—one thereof called the Newmilne upon the burn of Bucksburn—and the other, called the Newmilne upon the Denburn; with the said windmilne at the Gallowgate-head of our said burgh: AS ALSO, all and haill the two sea milnes, called *Shoar* or *Sea Milnes*, newly built and erected by the saids provost, baillies, council and community of our said burgh, after the date of their last infeftment above written, ratified, and approved, by virtue of this our present charter, with privilege and liberty to them of building more milnes at their pleasure; and with the multures and sequels of the said milnes, and of all grain growing upon all and sundry the crofts, acres, and common lands of our said burgh, and within the territory and liberty thereof, and of all grain pertaining and belonging to the burgesses and inhabitants of the same burgh, or imported and brought in, or to be imported and brought in by them, or any other persons, tholing fire and water within the same. All and haill the said

Castle-

Castle-hill, Green Meadow, and suburb called Foottie, with the chapel thereof, and whole boats and white fishings belonging thereto; and with the foresaid bull-wark, harbour, and shoar of Aberdeen, and milnedams and passages thereof; and with liberty and privilege of burdening and discharging, loading and loosing ships, boats, and other vessels whatsoever, in the saids waters of Dee and Don, upon both sides thereof, in whatever places and parts, and as oft as it shall seem needful to the saids provost, baillies, council and community. AND SICKLIKE of uplifting and receiving all small customs, anchorages, shoar-silver, and other duties, as freely in all respects as our said burgh of Edinburgh, and its collectors, receive and uplift at the harbour and shoar of Leith, and as freely as the same are uplifted and received by any other free royal burgh, at whatsoever harbour or shoar within our said kingdom of Scotland: AND SPECIALLY, with power of uplifting and receiving, in all time coming, the sum of three shilling, usual money of our said kingdom of Scotland, out of every tun of goods exported and imported, in whatsoever ship, boat, or other vessel, within the said port and harbour of Aberdeen, to be applied for repairing, building, and upholding of the said bull-wark, as the said provost, baillies, council and community, and their collectors, have enjoyed and possessed the same for these many years bygone. AS ALSO, all and whole the foresaid customs, called the Bell Customs of our said burgh, the small customs, tolls, and other customs, used and wont; with the weights and tron-weights of our said burgh; fees and

duties belonging to the same; and with all other weights and measures, liberties, privileges, and immunities anyways pertaining and belonging to the said burgh. AS ALSO, with free power of holding courts within our said burgh, and territory and liberty thereof, for administration of justice, and punishing delinquents and transgressors, according to the quality of their crimes, conform to the laws and practice of our kingdom of Scotland; and the issues, fines, and escheats of the said courts, with bloodwits as oft as they fall out, as well within our said burgh, liberty and territory thereof, as within the port and harbour and floodmark of the said burgh, and within the saids waters of Dee and Don, and parts of the same, where the foresaid fishings are disponed by virtue of our present charter; and of applying the said issues, escheats, fines, and bloodwits, to the utility and advantage of our said burgh. AS ALSO, with special power, privilege, and liberty, to the said provost, baillies, counsellours, and burgesses of guild of our said burgh, and their successors for ever, of using, frequenting, and exercising trade, merchandice, and commerce, and of buying and selling, in great and small wine, wax, wade, skins, hides, and all other kinds of merchandice and goods, as well of our said kingdom of Scotland, as of any foreign nation whatsoever, not only within our said burgh, territory and liberty of the same; but also openly, within, and thorrow the whole bounds and limits of our sheriffdom of Aberdeen, as well within regality as royalty. AND SICKLIKE of holding and having forever, within the said burgh and liberty thereof,

thereof, a *Merchant Guildrie*, with *Guild Courts*, counsellours, members, and jurisdictions thereof, proper and necessary; and of uplifting, and receiving the issues and escheats of the saids courts, sicklike, and as freely in all respects, and by all things, as, in the like cases, is granted by us, or our predecessors, to any other free royal burgh, within our kingdom of Scotland, and with all and sundry other liberties and immunities belonging, or that can justly appertain to the saids tradings, commerce, merchandices, guild-courts, and burse (or merchant meeting) by the laws thereof. AND SICKLIKE of holding, having, using, exercising, and enjoying within our said burgh, two publick weekly fairs or mercats, to wit, upon Wednesday and Saturday, according to the custom used and wont; with four yearly free fairs, beginning, holding, and continuing within the said burgh; whereof the first, at the feast of Whitsunday: the second, at the feast of the Holy Trinity: the third, at the feast of Saint Michael: and the fourth and last, at the feast of Saint Nicolas; every one of which fairs shall endure for the space of eight days. AS ALSO, with liberty and power of building and erecting more milnes, as well windmilnes as corn and waulk milnes, within our said burgh, liberty and territory thereof, and of letting and setting parts of the said common lands of Forrest of Stocket, which are not already sett and lett, for the profit and advantage of our said burgh, by long tacks or infeftment of feu-farm, for payment of the feu duties. Commanding, charging, and prohibiting, all persons,

as well in regality as royalty (not being burgesses of guild of our said burgh of Aberdeen), That they do not presume to use or exercise traffick, commerce, or merchandice, or any privilege or point thereof, competent to a free royal burgh, within the liberty and bounds of our said burgh and sheriffdom above-written, under the pain of incarcerating their persons, and forfeiting and escheating their goods, and merchandices, wherever they can be apprehended. MOREOVER WE, with advice and consent foresaid, have given and granted, and, by the tenor of this our present charter, for us and our successors, give and grant our full power, commission and authority, to the said provost, baillies, and counsellours of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their successors, of making and publishing acts, statutes and ordinances, for the common good and profit of the said burgh, and the defence of the privileges and liberties of the same, to be observed by all the burgesses and inhabitants of our said burgh, and by all other persons repairing to and frequenting the same, under such penalties as they shall think fit. AS ALSO, of causing the saids acts, statutes and ordinances, to be duly observed, with all the acts of parliament, acts of general convention, and privy-council, with the constitutions of the burghs, and all their own proper acts made, or to be made, in favour of the liberties thereof, and to prosecute and put the same to final execution, within the liberty and territory of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and sheriffdom thereof, above set down. AND LIKEWAYS, with special

special power to the said provost, baillies, and counsellours, of calling, prosecuting, arresting, and incarcerating, the persons delinquents, and contravening the saids privileges, acts, statutes, decreets, and sentences, and of intromitting with their goods, and escheating the same; which goods and issues so to be escheated, we, for us and our successors, with advice and consent foresaid, GIVE and GRANT to the common use of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and for support of the common affairs and works thereof, with all issues and fines of the courts, wherein the saids transgressors shall happen to fall, and incur the same. AND LIKEWAYS, we, with advice and consent foresaid, have given, granted, and disponed, and by the tenor of our present charter, give, grant, and dispone, to the saids provost, baillies, counsellours, and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and to their successors, all and sundry lands, houses, tenements, yairds, templar tenements, with all the pertinents of the same, lying within the precinct of our said burgh of Aberdeen, which formerly pertained to any abbacies, priories, preceptories, monasterys, chaplainrys, prebendaries, altarages, and other benefices; together with the whole feu-farms, and other duties of the same in all time coming, to remain with and belong to our said burgh, as a part thereof; with power to the saids provost, baillies, and counsellours, and their successors, as our baillies in that part, of entering and receiving the heritable vassalls and tenants of the same, upon resignation, or by service and retour, or by delivery of hesp and staple,

staple, sicklike and in the same manner as any others of our royal burghs of our said kingdom of Scotland, used to enter and receive the inhabitants, heritable proprietors and possessors of any lands and tenements whatever, within the territories and precincts of the same. AND LIKEWAYS we have given, granted, and disponed, and by the tenor of our present charter, with advice and consent foresaid, we give, grant, and dispone, to the said provost, baillies, counsellours, and community, and to their successors, all annual rents, feu-farms, and yearly duties, due, used and wont to be paid forth of the saids houses, yairds, templar tenements, and other tenements aforesaid; with power of intromitting therewith, and disposing thereupon, of all years and terms to come, and of applying the same to the common good of our said burgh. AS ALSO, we have given, granted, and disponed, and by the tenor of our present charter, we, with advice and consent foresaid, give, grant, and dispone, to the said provost, baillies, counsellours and community, and to their successors, all and sundry chaplainries, altarages, and annual rents, formerly pertaining and belonging to the saids chaplainries of the foresaid parish church of Aberdeen, called *Saint Nicolas*, and with all anniversarys and daill-silver whatsoever, which formerly pertained to any chaplainries, prebendaries, and altarages, in whatsoever other church, chapel, or college, within the liberty of our said burgh of Aberdeen, founded by whatever person or persons, wherever they lie within our said kingdom, or that in any

time

time bygone used to be received or uplifted. And with all and haill the foresaid mansion-place, houses, biggings, yairds and church which formerly pertained to the Franciscan friars of our said burgh, with all the duties and rents thereof, and pertaining to the premises, of all years and terms to come. And with the common loch of our said burgh, within and thorrow all the bounds and parts thereof. And with the foresaid hills, called Woman-hill, Playfields, Saint Katharine's Hill, Heading-hill, and Gallowhill, with the greens and fields called the Links, of our said burgh, as the same lye in length and breadth within the water-mouth of Dee to the water-mouth of the river Don, with tenants, tenandries, and service of free tenants, of all and sundry the foresaid lands and fishings, with the parts, pendicles, and pertinents of the same; and with all and sundry other liberties, immunities, rights and privileges whatsoever, belonging and incumbent to the said burgh, and whereof the said provost, bailies, council and community of the same, and their predecessors, have been in use and possession at any time bygone. AS ALSO, with as full and great privileges and immunities as are given, granted, and disponed by us and our predecessors, to our said burghs of Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, or any other royal burghs within our kingdom of Scotland, at any time bygone, preceding the day and date of our present charter: AND WITH all right, title, interest, claim of right, property and possession whatsoever, which we, our predecessors or successors had, have, or anyways may have, claim or pretend to have, any manner

ner of way in time coming, in and to our said burgh of Aberdeen, lands, acres, crofts, common lands, milnes, multures, fishings, castle, loch, meadow, hills, greens, bullwarks, anchorages, *tolls*, customs, *bell-customs*, weights, *tron*-weights, measures, annual rents, manor place, houses, yairds, and churches, which of old pertained to the said Franciscan friars and others, particularly and generally above-recited, or to any part, pendicle, or portion of the same, maills, farms, casualties, profits and duties of the same, of whatsoever years or terms bygone, or to come; for whatsoever deeds, causes, or occasions bygone, preceding the day and date of our present charter, renouncing, quite-claiming, and for ever overgiving the same; with all action, instance, and execution, competent, or that can be competent to us and our successors thereanent, to the saids provost, baillies, counsellours, and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their successors now and for ever, with the paction of not requiring, and with the supplying of all defects, objections, and imperfections whatsoever, as well not named as named, bygone, present, and to come, which we will have to be as expressed in this our present charter; wherewith we, for us and our successors, have dispensed, and by the tenor of this our present charter, dispense for ever. MOREOVER, we have ratified, approved, and by this our present charter, have confirmed, and by the tenor hereof we ratifie, approve, and for us and our successors for ever, confirm, an act and statute of our said burgh, made by the said provost, baillies, counsell, and community thereof, whereby it is statute and ordained,

ordained, that no ground malt shall be brought or presented to the mercat of our said burgh, nor sold within the same, privately nor publicly ; which act and statute is dated the eleventh day of January, in the year one thousand six hundred and twenty-eight. AND WE, perfectly understanding that the said act and statute not only agrees with the acts and statutes of all the royal burghs of our said kingdom, but also is fit and necessary for the good and advantage of our said burgh, therefore WILL and ORDAIN, that no ground malt shall be brought into, nor sold within the said burgh, privately or publickly, by whatsoever person or persons, within the liberty of the said burgh, or by extranears, under the pain of confiscation of all kind of ground malt which shall be brought in by any person or persons whatever, against the tenor of the foresaid act and statute, and our ordinance abovementioned, within the said burgh ; with power to the saids provost and baillies to confiscate the said malt, and apply the same to their own use. And considering that our said umquhile dearest father, of blessed memory, by his infeftment above specified, ratified and disponed to our said burgh of Aberdeen, all other liberties, rights, and privileges, as amply and fully as to our saids burghs of Edinburgh and Perth, who are sheriffs, coroners, and justices of peace within themselves, and that there is great necessity that our said burgh of Aberdeen should have, possess, and enjoy the saids privileges, and that especially for the reasons and causes following, viz. That our said burgh of Aberdeen hath grown, and is become, a plentiful and populous

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burgh and city, wherein there is great and daily merchandice and interchange of trade, and great concourse of our lieges and subjects, as well noblemen and gentlemen and other inhabitants in the north parts of our said kingdom, in all their meetings, and other great and weighty affairs, as of other common people, repairing to the fairs, mercats, and merchandicing within our said burgh, and at the port and harbour thereof. AND ESPECIALLY, that our said burgh is situate near the hills and mountains, wherein there are many rebels, and disaffected and broken men, who frequent the said burgh, and who, by their fighting and striving therein, disturb the peace thereof, and all the lawful meetings, conventions, and merchandisings of our lieges and subjects within the same: AND THAT the sheriffs of our said shire of Aberdeen, within the bounds whereof our said burgh lyes, are yearly chosen out of the barons and country gentlemen, who, with their deputes, dwell in the country, and are not present at all times for the execution of their offices incumbent upon them in that part, conform to law, whereby our said burgh, the inhabitants thereof, and others our lieges residing therein, are mightily disturbed and prejudiced. THEREFORE, and for remeed hereof, and for many good offices, true and thankfull services done and performed to us, and our said umquhile dearest father of excellent memory, and to our other most noble progenitors, in times bygone, by the said provost and baillies of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their predecessors, and for divers other great respects, good causes, and considerations moving

moving us, from our certain knowledge, and our own motive will, with advice and consent foresaid, we have given, granted, and disponed, and by the tenor of our present charter, GIVE, GRANT, and DISPONE, to the said provost, baillies, counsellours, and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and to their successors, provost, baillies, counsellours, and community thereof, for ever, the offices of *Sheriff, Coroner, and Justice of Peace,* within our said burgh of Aberdeen, and whole bounds of the common lands, acres, crofts, milnes, waters, fishings, hills, greens, ports, harbours, ways, streets, passages, and others thereto belonging, lying within the precinct and territory of our said burgh, with all and sundry liberties, privileges, fees, casualties, duties, immunities and advantages, belonging to, and incumbent upon, the saids offices of sheriff, coroner, and justice of peace, by the law and custom of our kingdom. And we have made, created, constituted, and ordained, and by the tenor of our present charter, with advice and consent foresaid, make, create, constitute, and ordain the provost of our said burgh of Aberdeen, chosen, and to be chosen for ever, *Sheriff* and *Coroner-principal;* and the baillies of our said burgh, chosen, and to be chosen yearly, *Sheriffs* and *Coroners-depute,* conjunctly and severally under him; and the saids provost and baillies of our said burgh, chosen, and to be chosen yearly, conjunctly and severally, *Justices of the Peace* within the said burgh, common lands of the same, and others above-written, pertaining and belonging thereto, for ever; with full and free power to them and their deputes,

conjunctly and severally, of affixing, affirming, beginning, and holding, and, if need be, of continuing court and courts, as well criminal as civil, as oft as they shall think fit, within the said burgh, common lands, milnes, fishings, muirs, ways, streets, passages, and others above expressed, or upon any part of the bounds aforesaid, as well against their neighbour burgesses and inhabitants of the said bounds, as against other persons resorting to and frequenting our said burgh of Aberdeen, and territory thereof, who shall be attached for any cause, crime or offence, criminal or civil, done and committed by them within our said burgh, bounds, and territory thereof, or any part of the same; and of exercising and using the said office of sheriff for any other actions, causes, offences, crime or crimes, that may happen against all persons that shall be taken or attached within our said burgh of Aberdeen, common lands, milnes, fishings, harbour, shoar, ways, streets, passages, and others particularly above recited, belonging thereto; and of administering justice, calling and convicting the suits of the said sheriff-courts; amerciating the absents, and of punishing transgressors, delinquents, and offenders; comburgesses and inhabitants, and other transgressors and criminals, to the death, or by banishment, whipping, burning upon the hand or cheek, or any other punishment used in any other royal burgh, according to the quality of their crimes, and agreeable to the laws of our said kingdom; and of making, creating, and constituting, necessary members and administrators of the said sheriff-courts, to be chosen and appointed out

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of the burgessess of our said burgh allenarly, and out of no others without the burgh; and of using and exercising the said office of sheriff within our said burgh of Aberdeen, and bounds thereof aforesaid, sicklike and as freely in all respects as any other sheriff within any other burgh of our said kingdom, exerces the said office of sheriff within his own burgh. AND SICKLIKE with power to the said provost and baillies of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their successors, provosts and baillies of the same, of using and exercing the said offices of coroner and justice of peace within the said burgh, and whole lands, possessions, waters, port, harbour, and other parts thereof, abovewritten, and whole bounds, liberties, and territory thereof; with all liberties, privileges, immunities, and advantages competent thereto, sicklike, and as freely as any other coroners and justices of peace use and exerce such offices of coroner and justice of peace in any other sheriffdom, burgh, and jurisdiction within our said kingdom. AND SICKLIKE we, with advice and consent foresaid, for the onerous causes abovewritten, and for divers other great respects, good causes, and considerations, moving us, from our certain knowledge and proper motive will, have given and granted, and, by the tenor of our present charter, we GIVE and GRANT full power, warrant, and liberty, to the said provost, baillies, and counsellours of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and to their successors, by themselves, or by their dean of guild, or any other persons whom they shall yearly nominate and appoint, of *visiting, enquiring, searching into,* and *trying the weights,*

metts, and *measures* above-specified, within the bounds of our said burgh, and of our whole sheriffdom of Aberdeen, and within all the common fairs and mercats, as well to burgh as landward, within the bounds of the said burgh, and our sheriffdom of Aberdeen. And we have made and constituted, and, by the tenor of our present charter, with advice and consent foresaid, make and constitute, the said provost, baillies, and council of our said burgh, and their successors, visitors, inspectors, searchers, and tryers of the measures and others aforesaid, within the bounds of the said burgh, and our sheriffdom of Aberdeen, giving, granting, and committing to them, and to their successors aforesaid, full power and privilege of making and sealing all vessels, measures, and weights, great and small, underwritten; that is to say, to mark and stamp all firlots, pecks, pound-weights, stone-weights, elvands, quart, pint, choppin, and mutchkin stoups, and all others of that sort, with an iron or brass stamp and seal, being the impression of the *Lyon and Crown*, according to the sundry measures and standards prescribed and appointed by act of our parliament, and of uplifting all fees and duties of and for the same. AS ALSO, with consent foresaid, we have ratified, approved, and by this our present charter, confirmed, and, by the tenor of our present charter, for us and our successors, ratifie, approve, and for ever confirm, an act of privy-council, made at Holyrood-house the fifteenth day of July, in the year one thousand six hundred and nineteen, whereby the lords of our secret council concluded and ordained, that there should be only

only one constant measure for salmon, thorrow and over our whole kingdom of Scotland, and that according to the ancient measure, commonly called the *Old Gauge and Standard of Aberdeen*, containing ten gallons, with which measure all our lieges and subjects ought to receive and deliver their salmon in all time coming, in form and manner, and under the penalties contained in the said act of our council, as the said act, of the date foresaid, at more length purports, in all and sundry its heads, points, clauses, articles, circumstances, and conditions, therein contained, according to the form and tenor thereof, in all points. And we will and grant, and for us and our successors for ever, decern and ordain, that this present ratification of the foresaid acts of council, shall be of as great value, strength, force, and effect, as if the said act of our privy-council were at length insert in this our present charter; wherewith we, for us and our successors, have dispensed, and by the tenor of our present charter, dispense for ever. AS ALSO, with consent foresaid, we have made, constituted, and ordained, and, by the tenor of our present charter, make, constitute, and ordain, the said provost, baillies, and council of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their successors for ever, keepers of the said measure, gauge, and standard of Aberdeen, appointed for measuring and gauging, receiving and delivering salmon within our said kingdom, and stampers and gaugers of the said measures, barrells, and salmon-vessels; and, by the tenor of our present charter, we give and dispone to the said provost, baillies, and counsellours of our said burgh of

Aberdeen, and to their successors, all fees, duties, and advantages, used and wont, of and for the keeping of the said measure, gauge, and standard, and stamping of the saids measures, barrells, and salmon-vessels. AS ALSO, with consent foresaid, for us and our successors, we give and grant full power and privilege to the said provost and baillies of our said burgh, and to their successors, of taking, apprehending, incarcerating, and punishing all persons within the said burgh, using and carrying unlawful arms, and prohibited by the laws of our said kingdom, and constitutions of the burghs, to be carried, born, or used by any persons whatever, according to the tenor of a charter granted by the said umquhile Robert the First, to the burgesses and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen for the time, and a clause therein specified, made thereupon, as the saids provosts and baillies and their predecessors, formerly used and possessed the same. And because the old and new churches of Saint Nicolas, the church of the Franciscan friars, called the College Church, Saint Katharine's Chapel, Saint Ninian's Chapel, upon the Castle-hill, Saint Clement's Chapel, called the church of Foottie, lye within our said burgh of Aberdeen, liberty and territory thereof; to which churches and chapels the said provost, baillies, council, and community of the said burgh, and their predecessors, have been in use to choose, present, nominate, and provide ministers and chaplains in all time bygone, when the same happened to vaik, and to pay them their stipends (they having no other stipends, or livings): THEREFORE, and for the causes above-written,

written, we, with consent foresaid, have ratified, approved, and, by this our present charter, confirmed, and by the tenor hereof ratifie, approve, and for us and our successors for ever, confirm the foresaid use, custom, and possession, which the said provost, baillies, council, and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their predecessors had, in choosing, naming, presenting, and providing ministers and chaplains to the foresaid churches and chapels and chaplainries thereof, when they happen to vaik. And we will, grant, and for us and our successors for ever, decern and ordain, that the said provost, baillies, council, and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their successors in all time to come, shall observe and exerce the foresaid privilege, use, and custom, and shall remain for the future, as in times bypast, in the right and possession of the same, and shall choose, present, nominate, and provide ministers, chaplains, and other persons, to serve the cure at the said churches and chapels for the future, as in times bygone, without any impediment, molestation, trouble, or contradiction. And we will and ordain, that the bishop of Aberdeen, and ordinary for the time, receive and admit the ministers and persons to be chosen, nominated, and presented by the saids provost, baillies, and council of our said burgh, in and to the churches and chapels, being fit and qualified for their service and function, and, if need be, give them institution and collation in due form, without any obstacle or impediment. MOREOVER, with consent foresaid, from our certain knowledge, and proper motive will, we have united, annexed,

annexed, and incorporated, and by the tenor of our present charter, for us and our successors, we unite, annex, create, and incorporate, in, to, and with our said burgh of Aberdeen, and the lands, milnes, multures, fishings, anchorages, port, harbour, and other liberties and privileges thereof, aforesaid, granted to the said burgh; all and whole the said offices of sheriff, coroner, and justice of peace within the bounds and limits aforesaid, and jurisdiction of the same, with the said escheats, fines, issues, and other liberties and privileges of the same aforesaid. AS ALSO, the said office of visiting, inspecting, searching, and trying the measures and weights abovewritten, within the bounds above-specified; with the said privilege of keeping the foresaid measure, gauge and standard of the foresaid salmon-barrells and vessels, and of stamping and gauging the same: with all fees, privileges, advantages, and immunities, belonging to, and incumbent upon, the said office: together with the foresaid privilege of choosing, nominating, presenting, and providing the said ministers and chaplains to the churches and chapels aforesaid, and every one of them as oft as they shall happen to vaik for the future in manner above-written, into one free royal burgh, to be now, and in all time coming, called THE BURGH OF ABERDEEN. And we will and grant, and for us and our successors, decern and ordain, that the said provost, baillies, dean of guild, threasaurer, counsellours, burgesses, and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and their successors in all time coming, shall freely and peaceably possess, hold and enjoy the same burgh,

and

and all and sundry the foresaid lands, acres, crofts, common lands, multures, woods, fishings, waters, castle, meadow, loch, hills, greens, bulwarks, anchorages, tolls and customs, bell-customs, weights, tron-weights, measures, annual-rents, mansion-houses, yairds, ways, streets, passages, and others specially and generally above-mentioned; with all and sundry liberties, privileges, immunities, and advantages belonging and incumbent thereto; and with the foresaid offices of sheriff, coroner, and justice of peace, within the bounds and limits above-written, and jurisdictions of the same; and with the said escheats, issues, fines, and other liberties of the same, above-written. AS ALSO, the foresaid office of visiting, inspecting, searching, and trying the measures and weights above specified, within the bounds above-written. As also, the said privilege and liberty of keeping and observing the foresaid measure, gauge and standard of the said salmon-barrells and vessels, and of stamping and gauging the same, with all the fees, privileges, advantages and immunities pertaining and belonging to the said office. And sicklike the foresaid privilege and liberty of presenting, nominating, choosing, and providing, ministers and chaplains to the said churches and chapels, and to every one of them, as often as they shall happen to vaik, for the future, in form and manner above-written, with all their pertinents (which for brevity's sake are not repeated in this our present charter), in fee, heritage, and a free royal burgh for ever. And we WILL and GRANT, and for us and our successors, DECERN and ORDAIN, that *one seasine*, once to be given,

given, by virtue of this our present infeftment, to the provost, and one of the baillies of the said burgh of Aberdeen, at the mercat-cross thereof, shall stand, and be a sufficient seasine to the said provost, baillies, dean of guild, threasaurer, council, burgesses, and community of our said burgh, and to their successors for ever, for all and haill the foresaid burgh, and for all and sundry the foresaid lands, milnes, possessions, waters, fishings, offices, annexis, connexis, incorporations, and others particularly and generally above-recited, of old pertaining to the said burgh, and given and granted by virtue of our present charter, and united and annexed to the said burgh, as above set down; sicklike, and as freely in all respects, as if our said burgh, and others above-written, were lying together, and contiguous, and not in divers places and parts, and as if particular seasines were taken at every part or place thereof, with all the solemnities requisite, and notwithstanding thereof. Whereanent we, for us and our successors, with advice and consent foresaid, have dispensed, and by the tenor hereof, dispense for ever; so that one seasine now to be taken in manner above-written, shall stand, and be valid, lawful, and sufficient in itself, without any other seasine thereof to be taken, or upon any part of the same for the future, to be holden, and to be had, all and haill our said burgh of Aberdeen, with all and sundry the foresaid lands, houses, biggings, yairds, tenements, port, bulwark, shoar, crofts, acres, roods, common lands, the lands of Rubislaw and Cruives, salmon-fishings upon the saids waters of Dee and Don, milnes,

multures,

multures, castle, hills, meadows, suburb called Foottie, chapels, fish-boats, customs, bell-customs, toll-customs, small customs, weights, tron-weights, measures, lochs, greens, anchorages, annual-rents, mansions, offices of sheriff, coroner, and justice of peace, escheats and fines; with the said office of visiting, inspecting, searching and trying the said measures and weights within the bounds above-specified, with the fees and duties of the same; and with the said office of keeping and observing the foresaid measure, standard, and gauge of salmon-barrells and vessels, stamping and gauging of the same, with the fees and privileges thereof; and with the power and privilege of choosing, nominating, and presenting ministers and chaplains to the saids churches and chapels, and for others particularly and generally above-written; with all the liberties, privileges, and pertinents of the same, by the said provost, baillies, dean of guild, threasaurer, and council, burgesses and community of our said burgh of Aberdeen, and by their successors, of us and our successors, in a free royal burgh, fee, heritage, free burgage, free office of sheriff, free office of coroner, and free justice of peace, within the bounds aforesaid, for ever. By all their righteous meiths, ancient and divided, as the same lye in length and breadth, in houses, biggings, heights, plains, muirs, marishes, ways, gates, waters, stanks, rivers, meadows, pastures and pasturages, milnes, multures, and their sequels; huntings, fowlings, fishings, peats, turfs, quarles, quarleheughs, cunnings, cunningairs, doves, dovecots, smiddys, maltbarns, breweries, and whins, brooms, woods, bushes

bushes and shrubs, trees, joists, stone-quarries, stone and lime, with courts and their issues, fines, herezelds, bloodwits *(et mulierum merchetis)*, with common pasturage, free ish and entry, and with *pit and gallows*, sok, sak, thoill, *theme*, vert, wreck, waith, wair, ver*mison, infang* thieff, outfang thieff, pit and gallows; and with all and sundry other liberties, advantages, profits, easements, and just pertinents thereof, whatsoever, as well not named as named, as well under the earth as above the earth, far and near, belonging, or that may belong to the foresaid lands, burgh, and others, respectively particularly above-written; with all and sundry the privileges and pertinents thereof *whatsoever, above*mentioned, for the future; freely, quickly, fully, wholly, honourably, well and in peace, without any revocation, contradiction, impediment, or obstacle whatever. Paying therefore yearly the saids provost, baillies, dean of guild, threasaurer, council, burgesses, and community of Aberdeen, and their successors, to us and our successors, and our threasaurers and comptrollers in our names, the sum of two hundred and fourteen pound, six shilling, eight pennies, usual money of our said kingdom of Scotland, as the ancient duty and maill and augmentation thereof, for the burrow-maills of our said burgh, used and wont to be paid, and received and allocate in our exchequer by the auditors thereof yearly in times bypast, at the terms of payment used and wont, in name of burrow-maill, according to the tenor of the said last infeftment of the same, specially above-mentioned. AS ALSO, for the said offices of sheriff, coroner, and justice of peace, and

other

other jurisdictions above-specified, due and lawful administration of ustice, in the same offices and jurisdictions in all time to come, together with burgage service used and wont, only for all other burden and exaction, which can or may be anyways justly exacted or required of the foresaid burgh, and others above-written, with the pertinents, by any whatsoever.—IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have commanded our great seal to be appended to this our present charter of confirmation. WITNESSES—the most reverend father in Christ, and our beloved counsellour, *John*, archbishop of Saint Andrews, and our chancellor; our beloved cousins and counsellours, *James*, marquis of Hamilton, earl of Arran and Cambridge, lord Aven and Innerdale, &c.; *Robert*, earl of Roxburgh, Lord *Ker*, of Cessford and Caverstoun, &c. keeper of our privy-seal; *William*, earl of Stirling, viscount of Canada; Lord *Alexander*, of Tillybodie, &c. our secretary; our beloved familiar counsellours, Sir John Hay, of Barro, clerk of our rolls, register, and council; John Hamilton, of Orbieston, our justice-clerk; and John Scot, of Scotstarvet, director of our chancery, knights,—AT OATLANDS, the ninth day of the month of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and thirty-eight, and the fourteenth year of our reign.

Sealed at Edinburgh the 10th of October, 1638, in absence of Andrew Hay *(sic subscribitur)*, John Davidson.—Written to the great seal, nono October, 1638, *(sic subscribitur,)* SCOTSTARVET.

m At

At Aberdeen, the 16th day of May, 1656, produced by Mr. James Sandilands, town-clerk of the said burgh, and ane minute thereof taken and recorded in the books of exchequer, conform to the severall acts and proclamations made thereanent by me *(sic subscribitur)*, W. PURVIS.

FINIS.

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Thom, Walter

The history of Aberdeen containing an account of the rise, progress, and extension of the city, from a remote period to the present day; including it's antiquities, civil and ecclesiastical state, manufactures, trade, and commerce
Bd.: 2

Aberdeen 1811

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